The DAILY COMMERCIAL, published by The Commercial Printing Company, Corner Fifth Avenue and Smithfield Street, opposite Postoffice.

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☞ TERMS OF THE DAILY: Single copy, 5 cents; delivered by carriers (Sunday excepted), 25 cents per week; by mail (per year), $10 00.

☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address THE COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh.

The Weekly Commercial, a large sheet containing all the Current News, Miscellaneous, Literary and Scientific Intelligence, and Valuable Reading for the family.

☞ TERMS OF THE WEEKLY: Per Year (52 Issues), $2 00. In Clubs of Twenty, $1 50; one copy gratis to the getter up of the Club.

The money must always accompany the order, and in no instance can these terms be departed from.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. VIII.—NO. 12. WEEKLY EDITION. JANUARY 21, 1871.

EACH AND ALL.

BY RALPH WALDO EMERSON.

Little thinks, in the field, yon red-faced clown
Of thee from the hill-top looking down;
The fowler that lows in the upland farm,
Far-heard, lows not thine ear to charm;
The sexton, tolling his bell at noon,
Deems not that great Napoleon
Stops his horse, and lists with delight,
Whilst his files sweep round yon Alpine height;
Nor knows he what argument
Thy life to thy neighbor's creed has lent.
All are needed by each one;
Nothing is fair or good alone.

I sought the sparrow's note from heaven,
Singing at dawn on the alder bough;
I brought him home, in his nest, at even;
He sings the song, but it pleases not now;
For I did not bring home the river and sky;
He sang to my ear—they sang to my eye.

The delicate shells lay on the shore;
The bubbles of the inland sea,
Fresh pearl in their enamel gave,
And the ballooning of the saucy sea
Greeted their safe escape to me.
I wiped away the weeds and foam—
I fetched my sea-born treasures home;
But the poor, unsightly, noisome things
Had left their beauty on the shore,
With the sun, and the sand, and the wild uproar.

The lover watched his graceful maid,
As 'mid the virgin train she stayed;
Yet knew her beauty's proper home
Was woven still by the snow-white cloister.
At last she came to his hermitage,
Like the bird from the woodlands to the cage;
The gay enchantment was undone—
A gentle wife, but fairy none.

Then I said, "I covet truth;
Beauty is nature coldbood's chant—
I leave it behind with the gods of youth."
So I spoke, beneath my feet
The ground-pine curled its pretty wreath,
Running over the club-moss burrs;
I inhaled the violet's breath,
Around me stood the oaks and firs;
Pine-cones and acorns lay on the ground:
Over me soared the eternal sky;
Full of light and of deity
Again I saw, again I heard,
The rolling river, the morning bird—
Beauty through my senses stole—
I yield myself to the perfect whole.

RESPONSIBILITY OF SOCIETY FOR THE CAUSES OF CRIME.

A Paper Read Before the National Congress of Penitentiary and Reformatory Discipline, Cincinnati, October, 1870, by Rev. J. B. Bittinger, D. D., of Sewickleyville, Pa.

Society sustains a fourfold relation to crime:

1. To those who are in danger of becoming criminals.
2. To those who are criminals.
3. To the prison population; and,
4. To the liberated convict.

These several classes differ very much as to numbers—from the comparatively small class, the imprisoned, to the large class, the criminals themselves; and the still larger class, those from whom the criminal class is recruited.

I.—THE EXPOSED POPULATION—HELPLESSNESS.

Of the above four classes the most clearly defined is the prison population. Their numbers are definite; their location is known, as also their offenses. If now from the seventeen thousand criminals in the different penitentiaries and State prisons of the United States (1860), we can get an answer to the question, *How many have been?* We shall have made a great advance toward answering this question: *What is the responsibility of society for the cause of crime?*

Now what is their answer? More than 28 per cent. tell us they could not read; 38 per cent. are entered, 9 per cent. had never learned a trade; those from foreign countries number 28 per cent.; those under age nearly 22 per cent.; while 9 per cent. are insane or feeble-minded. Here are five causes of crime: Ignorance, imbecility, want of a trade, youth, and voluntary exile.

If, from these penitentiary statistics of the whole country, we turn to those of the county prisons and jails of New York (1864), we find that 32 per cent. could not read, 75 per cent. were without a trade, 50 per cent. were foreigners, 25 per cent. were left orphans before they were fifteen years of age, and 50 per cent. admitted that intemperance, gambling-houses, houses of ill-fame and grog shops. Here, in addition to ignorance, orphanage, exile, and want of a trade, we have intemperance, gambling-houses, and intemperance as causes of crime.

Contrast with these the honest community, and therefore nearer those causes of crime for which the community is responsible, let us hear what answer is given to this question by the inmates of our juvenile reformatories, including under this name: Industrial schools, reform schools, houses of refuge, houses of refuge, and juvenile asylums. Their average number of inmates, in 1860, was seven thousand nine hundred and sixty-three; and their average age, a few days less than thirteen years. Of this number 60 per cent. were of foreign parentage, 38 per cent. orphans and half orphans, 23 per cent. used liquor and tobacco, 42 per cent. were homeless and truant, and 47 per cent. were of both sexes.

There is a sad uniformity in these respective percentages, and a still sadder uniformity in the likeness with which they point to ignorance, idleness, homelessness, orphanage, licentiousness, and drunkenness as causes of crime. It is noticeable that most of these cases of crime are negative. They are the want of a home, want of friends, want of work, want of a home, want of friends, want of parents, and want of mind. Is it strange that a population from whom the natural and moral defenses are taken away should be tempted and fall? Such fallen humanity is not to be pitied lessens; and nothing remains for its heirs but starvation or crime. Crime is the last resort of the helpless and friendless, unless society provides a refuge. "O poverty! thou art indeed unprotected!" Thou art the most desperate thing to confoundest all our boasted and most deep rooted principles; thou fillest us to the very brim with malice and revenge, and impellest us to deeds of the most unknown horror! May I never be visited by thee in the fullness of thy power!

II.—CHILDHANAGE.

Of the 1,553 children received at Mettray, 297 were illegitimate, 105 were orphans, 111 were foundlings, 202 whose parents lived apart, 214 of parents who married again, and 90 of parents living in concubinage. Take Mettray, and the reasons for these are to the innocents? "Look," says Dr. Guthrie, "at the history of the children of Edinburgh, in the original ragged school, as sketched in one of their early reports: Found houseless, 72; with father dead 149; mother dead, 226; both parents living, 315; both parents transported, 9; fatherless with drunken mothers, 77; motherless with drunken fathers, 66; both parents drunkards, 201; whom a majority believed to be children of thieves, 224." Outside of the Edinburgh Ragged School, there were for these children neither help nor home, father or mother. Society had in effect shut them up to crime. They stood five, and a criminal career was their chance.

What kind of life poor orphan girls in cities generally lead, is, alas, too familiar. In Glasgow, in this way, show: "Eighty per cent. of the females received into the Magdalene Asylum at Glasgow, Scotland, in 1860, were orphans or half-orphans. Seventy per cent. of all the females received into all these establishments in London, in the same year, were also either orphans or half-orphans." Out of fifteen thousand commitments of females in New York city in 1860, two thousand and upwards were duly sworn for vagrancy—which is but another name for homeless girls—girls who have already had the taste of the cup of virtue, if not their virtue itself, and are steadily moving on toward a life of prostitution. But no statistics, however startling their ratios, can give an adequate idea of the fearful tendency which orphanage among the poor in our cities has ever since. During the same year (1860), nine hundred and sixty-eight girls between the ages of fifteen and twenty were imprisoned for petit larceny. Here, then, we have more than three thousand girls, out of fifteen thousand female offenders of all classes, committed to theft and lewdness.

Now, let us look at the crime of boys. We quote from the *XVI. Annual Report of the Prison Association of New York*, became Mr. Brace's figures, with which the comparison is made, belong to the year (1866). Out of 24,329 male commitments, 2,347 were for petit larceny. That is, one-tenth of all the offenses committed were by boys, and these boys were the main source of the larcenies that year were by the same juvenile class. Here, then, we have picked up, by the police, in the streets of New York in a single year, 2,347 thieves, to say nothing of the larger number undetected. Most of these were orphans, or if not, them were uncared for. So much for those who, through idleness, friendlessness, and homelessness, chose the street for a home, and theft for a trade. Many of this class, it is true, beg; but the limits between begging and stealing are so narrow that when begging becomes an occupation they disappear altogether. Professional beggars are thieves in disguise. Their children can scarcely help it, for they merely follow the trade of their parents. Their whole training has been to steal, and steal they do. Their habits, they have few places of property, none of thinkiness or forethought, of idleness and the want of home and parents, work so distasteful, that it is safe to infer that if those wants were supplied, these sources of crime would, if not cease, be greatly dried up. And when Red Hill can show 79 per cent. of recovery, and Mettray 89 per cent., no community that neglects or refuses to give the children of the poor a home can escape the responsibility for more than three-fourths of its juvenile criminals.

IGNORANCE.

Ignorance is a source of crime. It operates in various ways: First, to expose men to it, and then to prepare them for it. The moral sense is first weakened by non-use. For lack of ideas it is often left to the suggestions of the animal appetites, with their debasing and corrupting influence. The want of books and schools ignorance is not consistent with a high degree of intelligence, even in the public standard set up in our prison statistics—to be able to read—is far above many of the adults that enter their walls. But when we consider that only one-half being able to read with facility and ease—such proficiency as gives pleasure, both as to the time and a power, within men's reach, how beggarly the show then among our prison population! The average per cent. of the State prison population of New York, in 1864, that could not read was 38, while among the jails it was 32; the remainder could read, and not disparaging the quality of it, it shows eleven times more ignorance among these seven-tenths than is noticeable that most of these cases of crime are negative. They are the want of a home, want of friends, want of parents, and want of mind. Is it strange that a population from whom the natural and moral defenses are taken away should be tempted and fall? Such fallen humanity is not to be pitied lessens; and nothing remains for its heirs but starvation or crime. Crime is the last resort of the helpless and friendless, unless society provides a refuge. "O poverty! thou art indeed unprotected!" Thou art the most desperate thing to confoundest all our boasted and most deep rooted principles; thou fillest us to the very brim with malice and revenge, and impellest us to deeds of the most unknown horror! May I never be visited by thee in the fullness of thy power!

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III.—THE PRISON POPULATION.

The criminal class of course, is small. This is not an idle play upon words. Like produces like. The prisoner, as a criminal, is a source of crime. As held in durance, he is a source of misery to himself, so far as he is unemployed and vicious, he becomes a teacher of vice or crime to other persons. In the first stages of imprisonment, officers are commonly huddled together, irrespective of age, sex, or criminality. In the unwritten law of the prison, it is the same room the criminal and the witness by whose testimony he is to be brought to justice. The one cannot be punished, the other protected, as there is nothing to do, to the same apartment with the hardened criminal. If the prisoner is employed, he is educated for crime, by listening to the recital of its excitements and pleasures. The vagrant is lodged in the house of correction, to be a companion in everything tends lower. There is no general virtuous sentiment or opinion to counteract all this. The prisoner is imprisoned in a class-feeling, "and whatever tends to class-feeling tends to demoralization first, and then to the utter hardening of the heart." Take it out of morals. Classes care only for the opinion of the clique, and clique-feeling is essentially vice.

If, therefore, there is to be any recuperation in prison life, it must come from without. The officers and attendants of the prison, as society's chief guardians such officers as possess this healing power. If selfish men are put in these places, and regarded as the hirelings of prisoners, their selfishness will harden them only the more. So long as prisons are looked upon as places of punishment, and punishment only, it matters not what the character of the keepers is, provided he keeps the prisoner safely; but if reformation is the end in view, the character of the keepers is of the first importance. It provides aim—keeps for relief; and no man is morally fit to be a teacher, chaplain or assistant, who is not interested or feels for the prisoner's recovery. In securing this much the co-operation of the prisoner is indispensable. The proper interest in the prisoner's moral well-being is only less dangerous to the criminal's character than enforced idleness. Self-interest must be aroused. The criminal, in outlawry, retains something of a sense of justice and propriety, and these must be preserved and made available for the first step toward him. If you shut him up to the thought that he is a criminal, and is expected to continue such, you will bring out his worst. He is cared for while in the prison less fitted to assimilate with the honest community than when he went in, and to the last day, so far as seclusion from criminals outside and segregation or congregation with criminals inside have any effect to reform, he has been the less formed—and that is all. Formerly he was a criminal—his character is unchanged, and therefore he can never exert on himself or others any but a criminal influence. He is a criminal discharged to become once more a free criminal, adding another to the sum of outside criminals—thus ever moving in a vicious and debilitating circle.

The proportion of the criminals restored, to the criminals released, is the true test of the efficacy and efficiency of a system of prison discipline; and society is as truly responsible for those causes of crime unconnected with poverty, as for those which are upon the surface of it. Society is responsible for those which brought him there. We separate the criminal element, because it is cheaper and safer than to associate it; and then when diffused through the body politic: if, however, the period of segregation is only nominal, it may, at the same time, cost the state as much pecuniarily, and, after the disturbing element has been received back again, may cost more than if no imprisonment had taken place. Two things therefore must be sought imperatively:

1. Reformation while imprisonable.

Perpetual detention if not reformed.

IV.—THE LIBERATED CONVICTS.

The relation of society to this class of the criminal population, and its responsibility through them for the causes of crime, is a subject of vital interest and importance. The duty of society toward the convalescent criminal is of the most delicate nature. If there is enough power in the Gospel to reform the criminal, there ought to be enough power in it to lead us to treat the reformed criminal with confidence. So long as society does not believe in the permanency of reformation, it cannot stand at the open prison door, and say to them truthfully, or to any good purpose: "Go and sin no more."

One thing is certain, society must take back the released prisoner, or the penitentiary must. There is no middle ground. If society conspires against the convict, he must conspire against society—or die a martyr. If or scorn or suspicion he notes up his way to honesty, and open it to crime, we are responsible for that crime. In Sage says: "A reformed drunkard should never be left in a cellar," yet this piece of uncharitableness we practice, when we demand more integrity and steadfastness from a reformed criminal than from an honest man. It is not the dream of optimists that thieves never prey. If desire of No-teeth offered one a place with him in Paradise, is it too much for us to offer him a place with us in the community? But it is not necessary to argue this point in detail. It is the logical conclusion to the cure of crime. A reformed criminal is not a criminal, and to treat him as if he were, is itself a crime. Facts gathered from the experience of France, Ireland, and especially Bavaria, favor the practice of the largest confidence, and the exercise of the broadest charity toward released convicts.

AXIOMS IN SOCIOLOGY.

The following axioms will help us better to understand the responsibility of society for the causes of crime:

I. *Whatever exposes men to commit crime is a source of crime.*

Helplessness may be considered the sum of this exposure. Poverty is a kind of helplessness. Ignorance is a kind of helplessness—ignorance of anything, before all, of God and ourselves; of a trade, language, laws, customs, etc. Orphanage is helplessness, as also are homelessness and imbecility. In all civilized countries society has committed itself, in part, to the helpless, in each of its dependent classes. It provides alms-houses for the poor; schools for the ignorant; emigration commissioners for the foreigner; asylums for the orphan. What it needs to do, in order to meet all its obligations, is to enlarge, systematize and enforce its supervision. If society has the right to take the property of the community for the support of paupers, it has the same right to legislate in respect to property, that there shall be no honest paupers but imbeciles. If society, for reasons of State, has the right to tax the rich for the education of the poor, it has the complementary right to compel attendance upon the means of education. The rich man's duty to support the school is the poor man's duty to attend it. The same principles which make society responsible for orphans *de jure*, make it responsible for orphans *de facto*—thus the children of criminals and friendless paupers would become the wards of the State.

Charity in its higher sphere, when it ceases to be a mere impulse and becomes a principle of equity as well, is an attempt to restore and maintain the lost balance between the classes. Its action may be individual or political, accidental or systematic; it is a moral libration, showing the unrest of the world: that the kind feeling that flows out to it, to maintain an equilibrium is so far forth inadequate and injurious. Charity incurred to give each man the opportunity to secure his balance. It must teach every man to help himself, and become a principle of equity as well, in

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1871.

The Methodist Book Concern investigation, now in progress in New York, from the present aspect of the case, seems little likely to satisfy the public interest, or to terminate the public discussion of the subject. On the contrary, general surprise and general discontent are the already manifest results of the direction given to the proceedings of the court, and of the manner in which the proceedings are conducted. With reference to the latter, generally recognized and established rules of evidence have been disregarded in the admission of testimony, while rules long ago exploded, or else recently discovered, are followed. However, these irregularities are less offensive than the refusal or failure of the Court to take up and investigate the injurious charges so long in circulation, and the cause of such exciting suspicions respecting the management of the Book Concern. The public [illegible] but slightly interested in Dr. LA[illegible]HAN, merely wishing justice to be done him. Suspended from his office as Assistant Agent for having charged fraud, embezzlement and other offenses upon the management of the Concern, he can be justified or condemned only by the confirmation or refutation of his damaging allegations. Are Dr. LANAHAN's statements *anent* the Concern true or false? This is the only question in the premises of any particular interest to the public, and to answer the question was supposed to be the object for which the Court assembled. But this, it appears, was a mistake. After spending a good deal of time in discussions relative to the competency of the Court, in which nice distinctions were drawn betwixt moral demerit and official misconduct; after prolonged statements and counter-statements as to episcopal intervention and non-intervention in past transactions; after very extraordinary and hopelessly mystifying revelations concerning the men responsible or not responsible for the charges laid in against LANAHAN in counteraction of his charges against the Book House, the Court proceeds to try—not the accused—but the accuser. It is Dr. LANAHAN who is on trial. The indictment presents a frightful array of specifications, most, indeed, we believe, all of which relate to his conduct as an officer of the gigantic Concern. Reading the proceedings of the Court, we get the impression that in their estimation the immense composite personage, with whose good name the Press and the Public have been so busy for many months is as innocent as GABRIEL, or possess a refinement of the moral sense greater than the place calls for. The opportunities, if not the demands of the position are such as to put into action and utilize whatever qualities natural or acquired, whatever attainments however shining or admirable in the incumbent may possess. In virtue of his office he becomes an example more or less to the profession throughout the country, and unavoidably exerts an important influence upon their moral and intellectual character. And from the nature and relations of his decisions, the credit or discredit of his performances is reflected upon the entire nation. Yet heretofore one of these judges has not received a higher compensation for his time and labor than a village lawyer might earn by his practice. Making all due allowance for the honor of the position as affording some remuneration, the salary has appeared ridiculously insufficient. With the increased expensiveness of living and with the increasing tendency everywhere to estimate things by a pecuniary standard, the disparity between the services rendered and the wages paid for them would seem ever more glaring. It is surprising that the recent movement in Washington for the increase of the judges' salaries encounters any opposition. By reflecting and reasonable people generally we doubt not it will be heartily approved. The fact that men qualified by talents and learning to be judges are willing to accept places so ill paid affords no justification for the niggardliness of the paymasters. The nation owes something to its own character in the relation. And then, though a lawyer here and there may not be less fit to be a judge because he happens to be indifferent to money, such unconcern must be allowed to be rather unprofessional. To most first rate members of the profession, a good income at least must seem a legitimate object of pursuit. In proportion as the country advances in wealth and refinement, justice to his family as well as himself, will forbid the lawyer in high practice to accept a position to which a low salary is attached. Hence another reason for approving the increase of the judicial wages in time, a reason urged by Mr. DAVIS a few days ago with great force. Unless the office pays well enough to attract, or at any rate so as not to repel truly able men learned in the law, there is danger that the Bench of the Supreme Court will be occupied by men so inferior in intellect and knowledge to many of the lawyers who conduct cases before them, that justice will suffer from the inequality. It is a humiliating and pitiful sight a Judge made to play Mr. PUNCH by an adroit performer in the person of an able advocate.

JUDGES' SALARIES.

For many years the low salary paid to a Judge of the Supreme Court of the United States has been a positive disgrace to the nation. It has been a scandal as well. The place is the highest professional position to which a member of the Bar can attain or may aspire. It is on all hands admitted that the position calls for the most complete qualifications within the reach of a lawyer. No man may be gifted with abilities, or make professional acquisitions of knowledge, or possess a refinement of the moral sense greater than the place calls for. The opportunities, if not the demands of the position are such as to put into action and utilize whatever qualities natural or acquired, whatever attainments however shining or admirable in the incumbent may possess. In virtue of his office he becomes an example more or less to the profession throughout the country, and unavoidably exerts an important influence upon their moral and intellectual character. And from the nature and relations of his decisions, the credit or discredit of his performances is reflected upon the entire nation. Yet heretofore one of these judges has not received a higher compensation for his time and labor than a village lawyer might earn by his practice. Making all due allowance for the honor of the position as affording some remuneration, the salary has appeared ridiculously insufficient. With the increased expensiveness of living and with the increasing tendency everywhere to estimate things by a pecuniary standard, the disparity between the services rendered and the wages paid for them would seem ever more glaring. It is surprising that the recent movement in Washington for the increase of the judges' salaries encounters any opposition. By reflecting and reasonable people generally we doubt not it will be heartily approved. The fact that men qualified by talents and learning to be judges are willing to accept places so ill paid affords no justification for the niggardliness of the paymasters. The nation owes something to its own character in the relation. And then, though a lawyer here and there may not be less fit to be a judge because he happens to be indifferent to money, such unconcern must be allowed to be rather unprofessional. To most first rate members of the profession, a good income at least must seem a legitimate object of pursuit. In proportion as the country advances in wealth and refinement, justice to his family as well as himself, will forbid the lawyer in high practice to accept a position to which a low salary is attached. Hence another reason for approving the increase of the judicial wages in time, a reason urged by Mr. DAVIS a few days ago with great force. Unless the office pays well enough to attract, or at any rate so as not to repel truly able men learned in the law, there is danger that the Bench of the Supreme Court will be occupied by men so inferior in intellect and knowledge to many of the lawyers who conduct cases before them, that justice will suffer from the inequality. It is a humiliating and pitiful sight a Judge made to play Mr. PUNCH by an adroit performer in the person of an able advocate.

While the English speaking world has been in a state of anxiety concerning Dr. LIVINGSTONE's fate, the German speaking world, at least the portion of it interested in geographical discovery has been deeply troubled in behalf of Dr. GEORGE SCHWEINFURTH, the somewhat famous African traveler. For more than a year nothing was heard of or from him, and the conclusion was pretty generally accepted that he had perished. At length Dr. PETERMANN of Gotha, reports the safety of the explorer with some interesting results of his researches. Dr. SCHWEINFURTH has visited the so-called Ujam Ujam countries, a region of Central Africa never before seen by a European, and has succeeded in bringing away abundant drawings of curious objects and also rich collections in the various departments of natural history. He has besides formed the acquaintance of certain negro tribes whose peculiarities had been heard of, but had not been generally believed in. He has, for instance, been among those wonderful dwarfs, and has actually brought one of them away in his service. This statement, we confess, seems hardly satisfactory. If we were told that he had carried off the specimen in his pocket, we might safely set down the Pigmies as no longer fabulous. But let us be patient. A gigantic and hitherto unknown species of the bread tree is also among Dr. S.'s discoveries.

TUESDAY was the day for electing Senators, and we find Maine electing LOT M. MORRILL; Massachusetts returning HENRY WILSON to six years service in addition to the sixteen years the nation has already enjoyed from him; Illinois promoting JOHN A. LOGAN, for his brilliant army services and his faithful performance of duties in the House; Michigan rewarding THOMAS W. FERRY for his unpretentious but unflagging attention to his Congressional duties, and Minnesota giving WILLIAM WINDOM a full term. These States keep up the Republican line right well, but Missouri turns back into the opposition ranks and selects as her Senator the scheming FRANK P. BLAIR to fill the vacancy made by Senator DRAKE's acceptance of the snug berth in the Court of Claims. That the SAULSBURY family still run Delaware politics appears in the nomination of ELI, the present Governor, to succeed his brother WILLARD in the Senate. The New Jersey Republicans have done an excellent thing in selecting THEODORE F. FRELINGHUYSEN as the man whom they will elect Senator.

WHEN we consider how powerful is the Railroad interest in Congress, it should excite no amazement that a Representative whose constituents are vitally interested in the preservation of the navigation of the Ohio river should be indifferent to the result of the struggle that is going on. When a Representative with a constituency presents in himself a spectacle so extraordinary, an extraordinary reason only will account for it. With the Railroads on one side and the people on the other, the people will stand a good chance of being betrayed—at all events of being poorly served—unless the representative happens to be a man of unusual integrity and independence of character. The weak minded, and naturally faithless man, with his fortune yet to make, becomes a ready captive to the influences which great and not over scrupulous corporations know so well how to employ.

That, however, was a great mistake, as the result now shows, on the part of those who so acted, and were content to take the chances of a serene and quiet reign under the auspices of King Log. There are few men so small as to be absolutely incapable of mischief, if they are injudiciously invested with unusual powers.

But why General NEGLEY should have found it necessary to launch this deadly shaft against the bosom which has trusted and nourished him we cannot understand. If he is ambitious of notoriety might he not have launched his little boat again before some more innocent aquatic excursion like that of the previous session? Or having tried the sea so unsuccessfully, is this but the re-awakening of the ancient taste—a new horticultural spasm—in view of the lawns, and shrubbery, and flowers, and gushing fountains, and warbling birds, with which he may hope to supplant the frowning appliances of "grim visaged war," himself perhaps the Guardian Genius of the new Eden, when he shall have laid down his robes as a Legislator and a statesman?

But it is no matter to jest about, and we are glad to find that even the organ itself, after heralding to its readers, with evidently pleasurable emotions the great things which its protege had already accomplished in this direction, is beginning to find that the General is "cutting it a little too fat" for the public stomach, and doubts whether he and the Councils both have not perpetrated a great blunder, to say the least of it.

It is worse than a blunder. It is an act of gross disloyalty to the people not only of this city, but of the whole county, and we think that no time ought to be lost in preventing the consummation in the Senate which is so publicly and confidently promised by its author, and that those who are responsible for putting him where he is are under a double obligation to see that he is disappointed in this particular, and that he does no further mischief while he continues to hold the commission so unwisely bestowed under the influence of a few untrustworthy managers.

If the lesson it teaches, however, should have the effect of putting the people on their guard hereafter, it will be some consolation to those who have been laboring to effect a reform in the matter of nominations to important offices.

APPARENTLY the public are not destined soon to hear the last of the NATHAN murder. Hardly a week elapses without presenting some new claimant for the infamy of having done the deed, or for the honor and reward of having discovered the perpetrator. Candidates of the former class for the popular interest are either jokers who find amusement in mystifying the police, or crazy people who soon persuade themselves that they have committed whatever deed they often hear talked about, that is, whatever deed their disordered powers of attention are long fixed upon. The phenomenon is a feature of a sort of mental disease well known to the books. The second class of aspirants for the public favor are generally, we suppose, private detectives, or parties who wish for a prosperous admission into that noble profession. According to a paper in the last number of the *Galaxy*, the business of private detection is numerously represented in New York, and most likely other large cities are equally blessed. Indeed, there is hardly a village in the country in which there are not a few morally and intellectually gifted individuals manifestly called by nature and taste to engage in the pursuit, and even though quite unappreciated and unrewarded except by the pleasing consciousness of ingenuity exercised, perhaps contrive to do somewhat in it in the way of avocation, if not regular employment. To return to the NATHAN case; last week a man from Chicago professed to have found a clue to the murderer, but learning that the splendid reward in case of discovery would be divided among the *force*, he withdrew. From the revelations of the article in the *Galaxy*, it may be reasonably suspected that his whole object was to extort money and that his clue is a mere pretence.

THE consolidation of the Revenue Districts is giving General GRANT, to whom the duty is confided, a great deal of trouble. What ought to be a straight-forward piece of business is rendered a difficult task by the contest which always ensues whenever practical retrenchment is intended by the dismissal of useless officers and the abolition of salaries. It is probable that the President finds little difficulty in determining what really ought to be done, if the public interest solely were taken into the account, regardless of that of party or individuals; and we are satisfied that, when it comes to the question of economy the public will be as safe in the hands of Gen. GRANT as any man that could be named; but he would be something more than human who could be uninfluenced by the pressure which an army of office-holders can bring to bear; and it is too much to expect that in every case only that will be done which a man in his private affairs would of his own free will do. Herein is afforded another illustration of the continual war which is going on between the public treasury and those who live by office, and the necessity for reforming the civil service. The hopes of securing such a reform are mainly based on the enormity of the abuses requiring correction.

THE HON. D. N. WHITE introduced his Reform Bill for Allegheny county in the House Tuesday, and moved to refer it to the Allegheny delegation, which motion was voted down, all of Mr. WHITE's colleagues voting against it. The position of the delegation, in regard to this bill, Mr. WHITE excepted, may with positiveness be said to be of hostility, without the courage to avow it. They will do everything in their power to defeat the bill, and, if possible, avoid the responsibility. We presume that Mr. WHITE already understands them.

THERE are 271 public schools in New York city, and although 258,132 is the whole number taught in 1870, the average attendance was only about forty-three per cent. of that number, or 102,608. This is about the ratio of attendance throughout the nation, and throughout New York, but in Pennsylvania the percentage of attendance is sixty-two and in Massachusetts seventy-three, facts interesting to remember in connection with the latter State's boast of the superiority of her school books to those of the nation. The Normal College and Saturday Normal schools had 1,662 pupils in 1870. The average attendance during the ten years ending 1870 has increased from 67,436 to 102,608, or forty-two per cent., and the whole number taught has increased from 166,605 to 229,764, or more than forty-two per cent. The total number who can be accommodated is 99,437; average attendance, 88,422; excess of accommodation, 11,015. The report for the current year of the Board of Education will show that the department had been conducted for more than $1,100,000 less than the law allowed, and this year would probably show a similar saving.

A CHERBOURG correspondent thinks he has learned the secret of the inefficiency of the great French navy in the practice of target shooting. He explains it all. The ingenious Germans have practiced upon the hints thrown out in the American conflict, and by their superior scientific knowledge and knowledge of chemistry have devised a class of infernal machines that are planted with unerring accuracy along the entire coast, so that no vessel can approach without being blown to destruction. In this way an effectual defense against all the iron clads and powerful vessels of the French navy has been secured, and they have not dared to risk interference with it. These are interesting statements, whatever may be their character for truth, and, indeed, it is not impossible that the "infernal machines" referred, had to assume charge of the same. Not being aware that the funeral address would have to be made by him he had not taken any notes of his speech, but, as published below, will be found interesting and suggestive. Mr. WEED, however, and his associates, as well as the mourning relatives, derived much comfort from his words. He was assisted by Revs. Mr. [illegible] of the Methodist Episcopal Church; Rev. H. Q. Gray and J. W. Walker, of the Fairfield Methodist Episcopal Church.

THE services began by singing the beautiful hymn commencing:

"Rock of ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in thee."

Which was given out by Rev. W. A. Stewart.

Rev. H. Q. Gray then read the 90th Psalm, from the nineteenth psalm, beginning: "Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place through all the generations."

ADDRESS OF REV. J. W. WALKER.

Rev. J. W. Walker then made the following address:

MY CHRISTIAN FRIENDS: God not only speaks to us in His written Word, but He also speaks to us in the dispensations of His providence. These calamities, whether foreign or domestic, whether public or personal, are addressed to us, and ask our troubled consciences to consider them. These are the words He has declared to his disciples, when he said to them, "Watch, for ye know not what the master of the house cometh. We are not only taught that we may expect the Lord, but we are taught to us by the dispensations of God's providence, and in various other ways we are reminded of the uncertainty of life. But on every occasion it makes it clear that it is uncertain, and we must all know that our Lord may call us at any hour that He pleases at His ease. Each one here to-day recollects scenes through which we have passed, and we recollect that [illegible] often come and been taken away. We are liable to be called away at any time by disease or accident, and I desire to call your mind further upon the uncertainty of life, but rather direct attention to the necessity of being always ready when our Lord shall call us away. This is also a truth in his own words to "watch, for ye know not when the time is. Watch, for ye know not when the Master cometh." And we should accustom ourselves to fear Him, and trust in Him, seeking at all times to improve our minds with these great truths, for it is truly a solemn thing to die, and we should endeavor to fit ourselves for that solemn event.

Two things are essentially necessary to meet it. Repentance of our sins and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Neither of these can in any manner be dispensed with. We should come to Him in the sacred scriptures require of us and the primitive principles of religion require. We should always be on guard with reference to our great duty. We are liable, however, to become tired and grow weary in our work, but we are reminded that in this world we must not weary in well doing, that we must strive to gain the prize higher than ourselves. Let us then not be as the apostles of old who were concerned sleeping by our blessed Master, when they should have been on watch; but like foolish virgins whose lamps were unfilled and untrimmed. We learn in the fate of the foolish virgins who indulged in idleness and folly, that at the very time and at the time came they were shut out from the feast of the marriage supper. This will be the fate of all those who in any manner fail to improve the talents committed to their care. Many persons there are who remain entirely indifferent concerning the things relating to their future destinity. What will such an one think when called to go before God? Eternity will burst upon them in sight and the consolation of Thy gospel into those hearts which Thou hath bruised. We humbly plead that they may realize the truth that there is a rock which is higher than they, where they may come and find rest and a refuge which they can not find any where else. We pray Thee that Thou wilt verify Thy promises and be a husband to the widow and a father to the children. Bless the sons and daughters of affliction everywhere, and bind up the broken heart. We commend unto Thy tender care the bereaved relatives; we ask for the sake of Him who suffered and died for us, and whose grace is sufficient for all our wants. And finally, O God, we desire to commit ourselves unto Thee, and may we receive consolation from the word: "Let not your hearts be troubled, &c." We pray Thee that while we are taught to be ready, that we may also be ready for life prepared, that when the Master comes we may be enabled to receive Christ Jesus and spend a blessed eternity with Him. We do all these blessings for our Redeemers sake. Amen!

The services were then concluded by Mr. Gray, pronouncing the benediction.

THE FUNERAL COTEGE.

Upon the conclusion of the services, the coffin was closed, and under the escort of the Congressional Committee, was removed from the house to the hearse. The funeral cortege was then arranged, about twenty minutes being consumed before it was started, after which the Congressional Committee returned to Lockport, leaving the funeral party to be carried for Washington. The procession was about two miles long from the residence to the railroad depot just about the time the rear was leaving the house.

PALL BEARERS AT THE GRAVEYARD.

The remains were interred in the family burying grounds at Fairfield, two miles from Cedarville. The pall bearers at the graveyard were Gen. C. P. Markle, of West Newton; Hon. H. D. Foster, of Greensburg; Mr. John Scott, of Pittsburgh; Mr. D. W. Shryock, of Greensburg and Messrs. Jacob Hollock and James McElroy of the valley in which Mr. Covode resided.

RITUAL SERVICE AT THE GRAVE.

The services at the grave were very brief. The clergyman, Rev. T. N. Boyle, performing the beautiful ritual service of the M. E. Church, amid reverential silence, and closing with a prayer delivered in very impressive manner. The scene at the grave was peculiarly affecting, the wife, appearing almost heart broken, and the children, grandchildren and a large number of friends and relatives present manifesting their grief with sobs and tears. The services were closed at 4 o'clock P. M. with words of comfort to the bereaved, and solemnly and sorrowful tread the mourners turned to their homes.

After the remains had been placed in their tenement, the funeral party proceeded back to Cedarville, and those returning to Pittsburgh were brought in waiting to convey them to Butler, took the cars at 6 o'clock P. M., and reached the city at 10:30 o'clock P. M.

MR. COVODE'S FAMILY.

Mr. Covode had nine children, three of which are not yet grown up. Two of these he had taken to school at West Chester last week, and had returned to Harrisburg when death suddenly overtook him. Governor Geary, on special service, was in Cedarville, after the death of Mr. C., but His Excellency, for some reason, did not attend the funeral. Jacob Covode, Esq., of Somerset county, with his family, and Dr. Jos. Covode, of Somerset county, with his family, were present at the funeral, together with a large number of grandchildren and relatives. He died intestate, leaving property worth a million and a half of dollars, perhaps.

And now we draw the veil over the scenes of Saturday, and may the sacred lessons imparted by them never be forgotten.

OBITUARY.

Hon. H. M. Brackenridge.

This aged and distinguished citizen expired yesterday, at the residence of his daughter-in-law, Mrs. F. S. Brackenridge, No. 46 Grant street. He was born in this city in the year 1786, and was therefore in eighty-four. At the early age of seven years he was sent to St. Genevieve, La., to learn the French language. On leaving school he pursued the study of law, and at the age of twenty years he was admitted to practice at the bar. Maryland, in 1811, he went to the South, discending the Ohio and Mississippi in a keelboat, as there was before the era of steamboating. He there received the appointment of Deputy Attorney General for the Territory of Orleans, afterwards organized as the State of Louisiana. The next year he was made District Judge, being then only twenty-three. This obliged him to leave the practice of his profession, and during the war of 1812, he corresponded with the government, giving them valuable information, and afterwards wrote a history of the war, which was translated into French and Italian. He took an active part, in connection with Mr. Clay, in behalf of the acknowledgement of the independence of the South American Republics, and in 1817 published his "Voyage to South America," which was said by Humboldt to contain an extraordinary mass of information. He returned to Europe in 1821, with General Jackson, to whom his acquaintance with the French and Spanish languages and usages recommended him, and in that year was appointed Judge of the Western District, which office he held for 16 years. During this time, 1832, he left the city, and became an active politician, and in 1840 was elected to Congress. In 1842, he was appointed a Commissioner under the treaty with Mexico. He subsequently wrote largely on political topics, and published, among other works, a "History of the Western Insurrection," commonly known as the "Whisky Insurrection," which is a most valuable contribution to our historical literature. In later years he had written many papers on various subjects, and had collected an immense mass of facts connected with our history, which will prove exceedingly valuable and important. The deceased was a son of Hugh Henry Brackenridge, a native of Scotland, who emigrated to this country with his father at the early age of five years, and settled himself for college while working on a farm in the interior of this State. He studied divinity, was a chaplain in the Continental army, subsequently studied law, and was the founder of the "United States Magazine" in Philadelphia, and came to Pittsburgh in 1781, participated with Gallatin in the "whisky insurrection." In 1799 he was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court of this State, which he held for twelve years, and died in this city, taking the shortest route, on until they were finally compelled to cease operations. It was intended, at the time of the incorporation of the company, to make the road a double track line of a uniform gauge of four feet eight inches through from Philadelphia to St. Louis.

Notwithstanding the grading, masonry, and a greater part of the bridging had been done, between Philadelphia and the Ohio river, the company failed, the project was abandoned and allowed to remain in an unfinished state for a long time. Some of the bondholders sold out the road and organized a new company, called the "Western Pennsylvania Railroad Company." They also purchased of the Northwestern Company's bonds, and took stock in the new Company. The controlling interest in the stock of the Company was afterwards purchased by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, who constructed the road from Pittsburgh to Mount Pleasant, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. The right to construct the road from Butler to New Castle also exists, but it is expected that at no distant day it will be constructed.

The grading of the road between Blairsville and the Junction was begun in 1863 and completed in 1865. The branch to Allegheny, via Freeport, was completed in 1868.

THE BUTLER BRANCH.

The completion of this branch was at once seriously agitated, and in the fall of 1869 the Western Pennsylvania Railroad Company, convinced of the practicability of the enterprise, began its construction, and in January, 1871, we find it completed—scarcely a year from the time it was reached by the company—as long, and costing $650,000, or over $30,000 per mile. It is not yet entirely completed to the depot in Butler, but a few weeks will suffice to bring the cars directly up to the depot.

The original survey made for the road went up the north side of the creek for perhaps a mile and a quarter, and then crossed to the south side, and this survey was made, and a change to the other side directed. To be exact, it is 20 94-100 miles long, the distance by stage being 18 miles.

Leaving the junction, the road winds around an abrupt curve, and soon transports the passenger into a section of country, wild, romantic, and picturesque indeed. Now the train dashes into a deep cut; then, suddenly emerging into an open stretch, keeps puffing along, crossing steep embankments, shooting around sharp curves, scaling the edges of deep declivities, finally begins to ascend the steep grade encountered about a half mile from Butler.

Thus sped the train until at length the shrill whistle of the engine indicated our approach toward the precincts of the "Iron City." We were then duly announced the arrival of the first passenger train over the Butler Railway. The time made by the train, the engineer running at slow speed in order to allow the excursionists an opportunity to see the country. The stating and management of the engine was in the hands of Mr. Dilla, obtained a good idea how to regulate the speed on the down trip from Butler in the afternoon.

Mr. Adams ran the train into Freeport in one hour and eight minutes—allowance seventy-seven minutes for a new engineer on a new road. Mr. George M. Thompson was conductor.

Mr. James Snyder, at present the General Superintendent of the Road, with headquarters at Freeport, had charge of the party at Freeport, and the party from Blairsville, brought the following gentlemen: Mr. John Scott, ex-Sheriff, of Parker's Landing, Hon. H. D. Foster, of Sonn and daughter, of Indiana, and Mr. S. Johnson, of Saltsburg, Indiana county. At 4:20 P. M., the Allegheny party was taken on several cars of provisions for Wednesday night at Butler, started off.

HISTORY OF THE ROAD.

In the year 1854, Major S. S. Jamison, mentioned above, secured the passage of an act through the Legislature, introduced and had passed an act incorporating the Northwestern Railroad Company of Pennsylvania, which authorized the construction of a railroad from Blairsville, on the Pennsylvania Railroad to the junction of the Allegheny Valley Railroad, thence to Freeport, by way of Freeport, and to the latter place to Butler and New Castle. Under the provisions of this act, the Northwestern Railway Company began operations, and very nearly finished the line between Blairsville and the junction of the Allegheny Valley Railroad. Major Jamison had the contract for the masonry of the big bridge at Saltsburg, and also for the building of two bridges on the road, near Saltsburg.

While the work was progressing on this end, some heavy cutting was done on section seventeen of the line, between Butler and Freeport, and a very considerable amount of grading was done on the line west of Butler, on the proposed extension to New Castle. Financial difficulty had all the time been staring the company in the face, but they worked on until they were finally compelled to cease operations. It was intended, at the time of the incorporation of the company, to make the road a double track line of a uniform gauge of four feet eight inches through from Philadelphia to St. Louis.

Notwithstanding the grading, masonry, and a greater part of the bridging had been done, between Philadelphia and the Ohio river, the company failed, the project was abandoned and allowed to remain in an unfinished state for a long time. Some of the bondholders sold out the road and organized a new company, called the "Western Pennsylvania Railroad Company." They also purchased of the Northwestern Company's bonds, and took stock in the new Company. The controlling interest in the stock of the Company was afterwards purchased by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, who constructed the road from Pittsburgh to Mount Pleasant, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. The right to construct the road from Butler to New Castle also exists, but it is expected that at no distant day it will be constructed.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, January 21, 1871.

THE WAR.

ENGLAND.

Gortchakoff's Last Dispatch—Greek Fire.

LONDON, January 17.—A Paris dispatch of the 14th says: "Gortchakoff's last dispatch to the authorities here, which was suppressed by them, called upon Trochu to take the initiative and make vigorous sorties upon the Germans, so that they might be prevented from detaching them from Paris to reinforce the armies in the provinces. The inaction here endangers the cause of France elsewhere."

The Gaulois, Republican in tone, insist on the adoption of Greek Fire for military purposes. There men in Paris declare they possess the secret of its manufacture. Governor General Trochu opposes the atrocity.

The Conference—Fire of French Batteries at Paris Improving.

LONDON, JANUARY 17.—The Lord Mayor of London has started a subscription for the benefit of non-combatants at Versailles.

The meeting of the conference at the appointed time is certain, but an adjournment to await the arrival of M. Favre is probable.

A dispatch from Berlin affirms that the programme of the conference has been differently arranged.

Advices from Paris report that the fire of the French batteries upon the German lines is severe, especially effective, doing much damage to the German positions.

The Bank of France has commenced to issue forced paper money.

Bourbaki Defeated at Hericourt.

LONDON, January 17.—Bourbaki attacked Von Werder at Hericourt, a short distance south of Belfort, on Monday, and was repulsed after a heavy fight, lasting till nightfall. The French troops suffered terribly, and the German losses were also severe. The French garrison of Belfort made an ineffectual attempt during the progress of the battle to break the line of the besiegers, by a sortie in force. It is thought Belfort will capitulate in a short time.

The French Removing Their Heavy Guns from Forts D'Issy and Vanves.

LONDON, January 17, 3 P.M.—A dispatch from Versailles announces that the French are removing their heavy guns from Forts D'Issy and Vanves.

King William is on a visit to Prince Albert, who is sick at Charlton.

Bismarck Seriously Ill.

Special to the Herald.]

LONDON, January 17.—I have the most unquestionable authority for stating that Bismarck is very seriously, and it is feared fatally, ill. Discredit all statements to the contrary, as energetic efforts are made to conceal the fact. I am able to state positively the exact words used to Otto Russell, English Envoy at Versailles last Saturday, which were: "I have just left Bismarck and I deeply regret to state my conviction that he has the mark of death on his countenance."

PRUSSIA

Fire Concentrated on Fort D'Issy.

VERSAILLES, January 16.—A concentrated fire is maintained on Fort D'Issy, to prevent the French from repairing breaches made in its walls.

Germans Guard Corps Against Still Re-treating—Bourbaki Rapidly Approaching Belfort.

BOURBAKI, January 16.—The Prussians have occupied Akincourt.

General Chanzy continues his retreat in good order, the advance and rear guard of General Faidherbe's army re-entered Albert.

The Army of the East, under General Bourbaki, is rapidly approaching Belfort, and news of the raising of the siege is momentarily expected.

Germans Bringing Up More Heavy Guns—St. Denis and all Principal Buildings to be Destroyed.

VERSAILLES, January 14.—Several seventy-two pounders have been brought to the Seine, but cannot cross on account of the floating ice. They were intended for Mt. Avron, and carry 226 pounder shells.

A whole siege train from Metzeres, with seventy-five heavy guns, has arrived. The mounted batteries at Mt. Mesnegy are ready to receive them, and will probably open fire to-day directly on St. Denis, which it is intended to destroy as a warning to Paris. Probably by next Sunday the sepulchre of the Kings of France will be demolished. Fourteen thousand shells were thrown into Paris yesterday. Prince Hohenlohe, Director of Artillery, declares his determination to destroy all the principal buildings.

VERSAILLES, January 15.—A *Times* telegram states that ground was broken on the route of Paris, and that projectiles reached the Seine at Pont St. Michael. Several sorties took place at night before Clamart.

FRANCE.

The Feeling in Paris Very Bitter Against the Germans—Favre to Attend the Conference—Effects of the Bombardment.

Special to the Herald.]

PARIS, January 15.—The violent Republicans insist on using Greek fire for military purposes. General Trochu opposes the atrocity. The ultra Reds declare their determination to use the invention against the Germans should the enemy enter Paris. On the other hand, some shopkeepers rub their hands complacently, and congratulate themselves on having articles that may tempt the German princes when they enter the capital, firmly believing that the reverence for royalty will be inculcated in the annals of war. The bombardment has created a panic among the peaceful people to go out and fight. Every man swears he will have revenge, even if he has to wait a generation for its accomplishment. The only method upon as a means for recruiting the army and country previous to the bombardment was to appeal to a future day. Two meetings were held by the Government yesterday to consider the subject of Favre's invitation to the London Conference. Count Bismarck's letter to Favre, of the 29th December, was only forwarded by Bismarck on the 10th of January, and thus unaccompanied by a pass through the Prussian lines. It is, therefore, impossible for Favre to reach London in time.

In consequence of the French firing at German flags of truce, they were forbidden for some time. Bismarck received an explanation of the affair, and informed Favre through Mr. Washburne that communications by flags of truce was re-established. Favre, therefore, will leave as soon as he receives a pass, and the condition of affairs at Paris permits. The general opinion in favor of his going, as his presence at the Conference will be a recognition of the Government.

Rumors are prevalent that General Schmitz has been arrested, and two of his aids shot.

The bombardment as yet proves very particular result. Hospital Sal Pobieres, containing 3,000 infirm women and 1,500 inmates, and very asylum, containing 300 wounded, were struck on the night of the 10th by fifteen shells. The inhabitants of the bombarded districts are changing their quarters. Those who remain in the vicinity of Rue Moufetard have moved their beds to the cellars, which are now decorated with pictures in a queer manner.

THE POSTAL TELEGRAPH.

ITS WORKINGS IN EUROPE.

Interesting Documents Submitted to the House Yesterday—The Experiment in England a Success.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 18, 1871.

Mr. Washburn, of Wisconsin, to-day submitted in the House several letters, addressed to him in foreign countries, showing the working of the postal telegraph system. These are to be printed. One of the documents is a copy of a letter of F. J. Sundemore, of the general postoffice, London, in reply to a series of questions concerning the working of the new postal telegraph system in Europe. He says he can not deny that there has been good cause for the many complaints published in the papers and copied in America. Confusion, delays, blunders and inaccuracies of the days immediately after the transfer were unavoidable, but had been mostly overcome or obviated at the date of writing in November last. The telegraph system is now better than ever before, but will yet be greatly improved. At time of the transfer 1,900 instruments were in use, and 3,300 at the date of writing; 1,500 additional clerks had been employed, and 1,400 additional messengers. The reason of so much public complaint was not so much that the service was more inefficient than before, but the fact that while the complaints of the press against private corporations had no effect and did no good, they were effective when used against the Government. The system had secret enemies, who made every complaint without cause, sometimes forging the names of prominent citizens. Before the transfer the number of messages per annum was 6,000,000. For the quarter ending June 30 last, the number was at the rate of 9,300,000, and the number will be at the rate of 10,400,000 per annum. There were 1,600 stations under the old system and 700 more have been opened, and at the date of writing new offices were opened at the rate of twenty-five or thirty every week. The troubles at the beginning were caused by the immense immediate increase of business, and the difficulty of organizing under one system a corps of different commercial companies. The proportion of social to business messages has not increased according to expectations, but is about twenty per cent. The expectation of revenue has been fully realized, although the expenses, most of them exceptional, have been very heavy.

The same gentleman, writing to Cyrus W. Field two months earlier, says they have demonstrated that the government system is better than the monitty than competing commercial systems. He says a six penny rate was urged, but he and others favored the shilling rate. The shilling rate was adopted and the increase of business was such as nearly to swamp them at once; and the advocates of the six penny rate were satisfied, but the six penny rate would be adopted as soon as the government was in a situation to do the increased business that would result. The writer says this civil service reform, by proposing a higher class of men and more cautious officers in the telegraphic department, had greatly facilitated the transfer. He doubts whether the Government could carry on the business with a set of officials whose tenure of office was insecure, as is the case in America.

There are also among the documents submitted letters explaining the operations and results of Government control of the telegraph in Sweden and Norway.

WASHINGTON.

Bills to Admit Two New States.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 18, 1870.

Two New States.

There are now bills before the House providing for the admission of two new States—Colorado and Utah. The latter was introduced in the House today by Mr. Sargent, and provides for the abolition of polygamy. Senator Nye, of the Committee on Territories, intended to call up the Colorado bill in the Senate to-day, but was unable to get an opportunity by reason of the discussion on the condition of the Southern States. A strong effort will be made by their friends to have both these bills acted upon during the present session. The chances of admitting Colorado are considered better now than ever before.

Relief That Should be Given.

The Military Committee of the Senate have decided to report in favor of the restoration of Colonel Belger to the army, and considered without coming to a conclusion on the bill relieving the counsel of Mr. Harmon, of East Tennessee. Harmon was a Quaker who, with his two sons, by order of the commander of the Union forces some time during the war, burned a long and important bridge over Chattanooga river. He and his sons were captured by the rebels, and tried by court martial, which sentenced them to be hanged. The father and one son were executed. The lawyers who defended Harmon took a mortgage on his property for their fees, and now it is asked that the Government pay for their services, and thus save Harmon's property for his heirs.

Mr. Pleasanton Favors the Repeal of the Income Tax.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue appeared before the Committee of Ways and Means this morning, and strongly urged the immediate repeal of the income tax, on the ground that the total revenue from this source was not equal to the cost of its collection.

FINANCE AND TRADE

WEDNESDAY EVENING, January 18, 1871.

Money at some of the banks was quite scarce yesterday, and good bills offered for discount could not be reached. Collections are coming in somewhat hardly, and much inconvenience in some quarters is felt. There is not the scarcity of currency with the banks and private bankers as we reported a few days ago. The want was relieved by liberal shipments from the east.

We notice that Hon. Hugh McCulloch, late Secretary of the Treasury, has become associated with Mr. Jay Cooke, and has gone abroad as resident partner of the firm of Jay Cooke, McCulloch & Co., London. This gives a strong array of good names—well known and intimately connected with our financial history during and subsequent to the war. "No. 41 Lombard street" promises to be a sort of rallying point for Americans in Europe, where they can have their letters sent, leave extra baggage, and store such "traps" as they may pick up in their continental rambles; especially so, now that Paris is shut in the traveling world, and it will be a long time before she can recover from the effects of the bombardment and regain her supremacy as the great center of fashion and pleasure.

—The New York money market again assumes a stringent form. The *Evening Post* of yesterday says: "It appears that the speculators for lower prices at the Stock Exchange have been in no manner daunted in their scheme of locking up money by the discovery that the preparation for the payment of $5,000,000 of bonds by the city was made in advance of their expectations. In fact they may be making even greater efforts than they would have done could have co-operated with the banks having the city deposits which, the latter part of last week, called in a large amount, outstanding on call, to meet the city requirements. The piracy or combination locking up is, as we understand the same as mentioned in the stringency in December, although it is reported that another wealthy Wall street house lends a qualified support to the movement. The object is to break or so weaken the stock market as to enable the combination to cover speculative sales previously made and buy for a rise. The strength of the stock market to-day indicates that the combination are buying, the expectation being that the weaker holders of stocks will be forced to unload by reason of their inability to obtain money with which to carry their stocks, except at rates which would be unprofitable for any considerable length of time. The manipulation of the money market by the combination is reflected in the Clearing House statement this morning. The Mechanics' National Bank was creditor in the unusually large sum of $4,316,-000. The bank largest debtor was the Broadway, which has been making payments on account of the city revenue bonds, due on the 15th. The other large debtors are the City Bank, the Park Bank, Fourth National, Republic and Continental, each of which either has brokers' accounts or is a large depositor of call money. With these facts apparent, the whole scheme is apparent to those familiar with the working of operations of the kind. The movers in the scheme are experienced and skilful, and will probably keep inside the letter of the law. It is unnecessary, perhaps, to point out the embarrassments to mercantile borrowers caused by these speculative movements, nor perhaps is it necessary to remind the bank examiner that his presence in this city at this time would be welcome by the business community. The ruling rates on call among the brokers this morning were 6 per cent. gold, and a commission is asked. It is threatened that before the day is out higher rates will be established. It is generally the market would be easy at this time. The currency demand from the pork packing season is now over, and the shipments to the west in about two weeks. The shipments to the South for cotton are also nearly ended. Declines in commercial paper are for the time suspended, but rates remain nominally 10@12 for prime.

The gold market is dull and is devoid of feature. The opening price was 110¾, after which there was a sale at 110¾, and a decline to 110⅝, the present price. The sales of the forenoon session of the Gold Board were $72 50@75 50; Philadelphia $5 75.

"CEMENT SALE—Sales of Louisville hydraulic at $2@3 50 ⅌ barrel. Phœnix hydraulic $2 50@2 75 ⅌ barrel.

CANNON CUT—The market exhibits more firmness with an advancing tendency, the movement in sympathy with the raw material. We are noted sales of standard brands in a regular way at 21¼@22 ⅌ gallon, with the usual advance on small lots.

DRESSED HOGS—The receipts have fallen off. This season is drawing to a close; some our last head were received. Prices range from 7¾@8c ⅌ lb.

LARD PRESS—The market is not changed. We quote: Peaches—quarters, 8¾@9c; mixed, 10@10½c; halves, 11@12c. Apples, 6@7c; sliced, 8¾@9c ⅌ lb.

EGGS—The market was weak, the tendency being downward. Prices nominal. Picked 22@23c; fresh 20c ⅌ dozen.

FEATHERS—Market was well supplied but not very active. We are noted sales by five dozen feathers in the trade at 80c; in a small way at 85@90c.

FLOUR—The market has a firm one, with a good demand for home consumption, and also occasional wear for export to other points. The receipts since our last were 700 barrels. Light in amount, outstanding on call, to meet the city requirements. The piracy or combination locking up is, as we understand the same as mentioned in the stringency in December, although it is reported that another wealthy Wall street house lends a qualified support to the movement. The object is to break or so weaken the stock market as to enable the combination to cover speculative sales previously made and buy for a rise. The strength of the stock market to-day indicates that the combination are buying, the expectation being that the weaker holders of stocks will be forced to unload by reason of their inability to obtain money with which to carry their stocks, except at rates which would be unprofitable for any considerable length of time. The manipulation of the money market by the combination is reflected in the Clearing House statement this morning. The Mechanics' National Bank was creditor in the unusually large sum of $4,316,-000. The bank largest debtor was the Broadway, which has been making payments on account of the city revenue bonds, due on the 15th. The other large debtors are the City Bank, the Park Bank, Fourth National, Republic and Continental, each of which either has brokers' accounts or is a large depositor of call money. With these facts apparent, the whole scheme is apparent to those familiar with the working of operations of the kind. The movers in the scheme are experienced and skilful, and will probably keep inside the letter of the law. It is unnecessary, perhaps, to point out the embarrassments to mercantile borrowers caused by these speculative movements, nor perhaps is it necessary to remind the bank examiner that his presence in this city at this time would be welcome by the business community. The ruling rates on call among the brokers this morning were 6 per cent. gold, and a commission is asked. It is threatened that before the day is out higher rates will be established. The English investors believe the tax would be laid. On the contrary, it is surmised that the Rothschilds and other capitalists who are reported to be buying our bonds in the London market started the report purposely, with a view to deceiving them in buying without advancing the market upon themselves.

MESSRS. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morning Noon.	Closg.
U. S. Bonds of 1881	110¾	110¾
U. S. Bonds of 1874	109	109
U. S. Bonds of 1864	108¾	108¾
U. S. Bonds of 1865	108¾	108¾
U. S. Bonds of 1865 (new)	107¾	107¾
U. S. Bonds of 1867	107¾	107¾
U. S. Bonds of 1868	107¾	107¾
10-40s	107¾	107¾
Gold	110¾	110¾

JAMES T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

Gold	110¾
United States 6s of 1881	110¾
United States 5-20s of 1862	109
United States 5-20s of 1864	108¾
United States 5-20s of 1865	108¾
United States 10-40s	107¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1865	107¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1867	107¾
United States 5-20s, January and July, 1868	107¾
Union Pacific Railroad, first mortgage	99½
Central Pacific Railroad	99½
Currency Bonds	110

—The following table, made up from dispatches received at J. W. Kennedy's Stock Rooms, Apollo building, No. 80 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of Railway Stocks, Gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day:

	January 18, 1871.											
	A. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.	P. M.
C. & I.	92	92	91¾	92	91¾	92	92	92	92	92	92	92
Do. Scrip	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22
Gold	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾
Mich. Cent	88½	88½	88½	88½	88½	88½	88½	88½	88½	88½	88½	88½
Lake Shore	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½
Illinois Cent	104	104	104	104	104	104	104	104	104	104	104	104
C. & N. W	72	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71
Do. pref	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾
Rock Island	105½	106	105½	105½	105½	105½	105½	105½	105½	105½	105½	105½
N. Paul	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½
Do. pref	73	73	73	73	73	73	73	73	73	73	73	73
P. & J. Whitall												
Do. pref												
Fort Wayne	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½
Ohio & Miss	31½	31½	31	31¾	31½	31½	31½	31½	31½	31½	31½	31½
Chic. & Alton												
Do. pref												
C. C. & I. C	45½	47½	47½	47½	47½	47½	47½	47½	47½	47½	47½	47½
Quicksilver												
Pacific Mail	42	42	41¾	41¾	41¾	42	42	42	42	42	42	42
Adams Ex			25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
Wells, F. Ex			35½	35½	35½	35½	35½	35½	35½	35½	35½	35½
American Ex			36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36
U. S. Ex	115½	115½	115½	115½	115½	115½	115½	115½	115½	115½	115½	115½
Gold	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾

A comparison between yesterday's and to-days quotations shows the following changes:

	Tues.	Wed.	Adv.	Dec.
Central & Hudson	92¼	92		¼
Do. Scrip	88	88		
Erie	92¼	92¾	½	
Reading	98⅝	98⅝		
Harlem	132	132		
Illinois Central	104	104		
Lake Shore	89½	89½		
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	104½	104½		
Chicago & Northwestern	72¼	71½		¾
Do. preferred	80¾	80¾		
Rock Island	106½	106		½
St. Paul	92	92		
Do. preferred	73	73		
Toledo & Wabash	50½	50½		
Do. preferred	78	78		
Fort Wayne	93½	93½		
Ohio and Mississippi	31¾	31¾		
Pacific Mail	42	42		
Adams Express	65¾	66	¼	
Gold	110¾	110¾		

—Messrs. Bowen & Fox, brokers and members of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, furnish the following quotations of the closing prices to-day of the most active stocks:

Pennsylvania Central	62½
Philadelphia and Erie	26¾
Lehigh Navigation	57¾
Lehigh Valley	37¾
Catawissa preferred	31¾
Oil Creek and Allegheny Railroad	46
Philadelphia and Reading	60¼
North Pennsylvania Railroad	44¾
Camden and Amboy Railroad	127
Minehill Navigation	50¼
Reading	49¾

The sharp advance in Pennsylvania Central stock is the feature of the Philadelphia stock market to-day. It rose from 62 to 62¾, and closed firm. This hitherto sluggish stock is rapidly assuming the lively speculative character of some of the Wall street favorites.

—JAMES W. KENNEDY, Broker, No. 80 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building), dealer in Government, State and Municipal Bonds; Railroad, Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks. Represented daily at the New York Stock Exchange, he buys and sells stocks on a margin for the same commission and on the same terms as the New York brokers. Money to loan in sums of $500 and upwards on collateral or well in-dorsed notes, and interest on mortgages on city or Allegheny county real estate.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } WEDNESDAY, January 18, 1871. }

REMARKS—A decided improvement was perceptible in commercial circles. The resumption of navigation to all points has produced a material alteration in feeling generally. The coal men have had a busy time, generally, getting off their mammouth fleet to the lower markets. The size of the run will depend altogether as to how long the river remains at a coalboat stage. The weather has been favorable for boating purposes and so far we have been able to ascertain, the draughts have been very light. Flour—the firmness we have before noted has been maintained, and why not Pittsburgh is beyond all question one of the cheapest flour markets in the country. The flour manufactured here annually is No. 1 in most of the leading markets. The stock on hand is fair and sales were to a fair extent. Groceries firm with an unusual amount of activity for the season. Country merchants, who formerly made all their purchases in the East, after an examination of the prices, have decided to go no further, as they can save time and money by purchasing here. This is just as it should be; and buyers will consult their interest by an examination of our advertising columns, as there will be found the houses that buy for cash and sell at Eastern prices. Just try it, and you will not be mistaken.

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce for the past two weeks:

	Last week.	This week.	Total.
Flour, bbls	4,883	5,995	10,878
Apples, bbls	625	722	1,347
Cheese, boxes	1,383	434	1,817
Corn, sacks	4,883	3,895	8,778
Wheat, sacks	3,306	3,488	6,794
Barley, sacks	4,758	2,190	7,880
Rye, sacks	514	503	1,017
Oats, sacks	4,767	4,359	9,134
Butter, packages	338	359	697
Bulk meats, pieces	29,912	4,000	33,912
Bacon, pieces	150	0	150

The following are the wholesale prices, unless otherwise noted:

ASHES—The receipts continue fair, the supply on the market being sufficient for all ordinary purposes. Prices have undergone no change. Prices range from 60 to 70c ⅌ gallon.

APPLES—The supply for activity and large transactions is over. The sales will necessarily be restricted to the wants of the local market. The receipts are light; we can note sales at $3 50@4 00, being the extreme figures; receipts 83 bbls.

BUTTER—The market was dull. The supply was fully up with the demand. We note sales of fair to medium at 20@25c; choice 28@30c ⅌ lb.

BALE ROPE—Sales in a regular way at 10½c ⅌ lb.

BROOM CORN—Supply liberal, sales at 7@8½c ⅌ lb.

BRAN—Small navy $2 00 ⅌ bushel; others as per quality, $1 75.

BRIDAWAY—Market firm; sales at 20@31c ⅌ lb.

BAKING POWDER—Shannon, ½-lb cans, $1 75 per doz; ¼-lb cans, 83 25; 1-lb cans, 86 ⅌ doz.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—The supply is still heavy, and prices remain unchanged, with sales at $3 50@3 75 ⅌ cwt.

BACON AND PROVISIONS—The demand was fair, and prices remain unchanged, with sales at the following figures: Hams—sugar cured, 16c; canvassed, 16½c; Shoulders—plain, 10c; Breakfast bacon, 16c. Hams—plain, 16c; sugar cured 17c. Mess pork $21 ⅌ bbl. Dried beef 16c. Lard—Chicago prime steam 12½@12¾c; Cincinnati bottle rendered 13¾@13¾c; Chicago and Cincinnati extra No. 1 winter strained lard oil, ⅌ gallon $1 10.

CHEESE—The market was not an active one, the demand being confined to lots to meet the local trade. The receipts have fallen off. We can report sales at the following: Western Reserve 14@14½c; Ohio Factory 15@15½c; Ohio Goshen 15c; New York Goshen 16@16½c; Limburger 16c ⅌ lb.

CRANBERRIES—The market is firm for a fine article. Sales of Sacketts' Bells' berries at $18 00@20 00 ⅌ bbl; other varieties $12@14@16 ⅌ bbl.

COAL—The market contains an ample supply of Eastern arrivals. We can report small sales at $2@2 50 ⅌ ton by the car load, delivered.

CORN MEAL—Market well supplied; sales at 90@95c ⅌ bushel.

CANDLES—Supply fair; mould at 12@12½c; sperm, 40c; short weight, 25c; stearine 18@19c ⅌ lb.

CIDER—The supply is ample to meet the demand, and prices are weak; sales, in a small way, are made at $6, $7 and $8 per bbl.

CONCENTRATED LYE—We quote Pennsylvania at $5 75@6 50; Philadelphia $5 75.

CEMENT—Sales of Louisville hydraulic at $2@3 50 ⅌ barrel. Phœnix hydraulic $2 50@2 75 ⅌ barrel.

CANNON CUT—The market exhibits more firmness with an advancing tendency, the movement in sympathy with the raw material. We are noted sales of standard brands in a regular way at 21¼@22c ⅌ gallon, with the usual advance on small lots.

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C. & I.	92	92	91¾	92	91¾	92	92	92	92	92	92	92
Do. Scrip	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22
Gold	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾
Mich. Cent	88½	88½	88½	88½	88½	88½	88½	88½	88½	88½	88½	88½
Lake Shore	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½
Illinois Cent	104	104	104	104	104	104	104	104	104	104	104	104
C. & N. W	72	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71
Do. pref	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾	78¾
Rock Island	105½	106	105½	105½	105½	105½	105½	105½	105½	105½	105½	105½
N. Paul	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½
Do. pref	73	73	73	73	73	73	73	73	73	73	73	73
P. & J. Whitall												
Do. pref												
Fort Wayne	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½
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C. C. & I. C	45½	47½	47½	47½	47½	47½	47½	47½	47½	47½	47½	47½
Quicksilver												
Pacific Mail	42	42	41¾	41¾	41¾	42	42	42	42	42	42	42
Adams Ex			25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
Wells, F. Ex			35½	35½	35½	35½	35½	35½	35½	35½	35½	35½
American Ex			36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36
U. S. Ex	115½	115½	115½	115½	115½	115½	115½	115½	115½	115½	115½	115½
Gold	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾	110¾

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Illinois Central	104	104		
Lake Shore	89½	89½		
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	104½	104½		
Chicago & Northwestern	72¼	71½		¾
Do. preferred	80¾	80¾		
Rock Island	106½	106		½
St. Paul	92	92		
Do. preferred	73	73		
Toledo & Wabash	50½	50½		
Do. preferred	78	78		
Fort Wayne	93½	93½		
Ohio and Mississippi	31¾	31¾		
Pacific Mail	42	42		
Adams Express	65¾	66	¼	
Gold	110¾	110¾		

—Messrs. Bowen & Fox, brokers and members of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, furnish the following quotations of the closing prices to-day of the most active stocks:

Pennsylvania Central	62½
Philadelphia and Erie	26¾
Lehigh Navigation	57¾
Lehigh Valley	37¾
Catawissa preferred	31¾
Oil Creek and Allegheny Railroad	46
Philadelphia and Reading	60¼
North Pennsylvania Railroad	44¾
Camden and Amboy Railroad	127
Minehill Navigation	50¼
Reading	49¾

The sharp advance in Pennsylvania Central stock is the feature of the Philadelphia stock market to-day. It rose from 62 to 62¾, and closed firm. This hitherto sluggish stock is rapidly assuming the lively speculative character of some of the Wall street favorites.

—JAMES W. KENNEDY, Broker, No. 80 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building), dealer in Government, State and Municipal Bonds; Railroad, Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks. Represented daily at the New York Stock Exchange, he buys and sells stocks on a margin for the same commission and on the same terms as the New York brokers. Money

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1871.

TERMS.

One copy, one year.....$2 00
Ten clubs of twenty per year.....1 50
One copy extra to the getter up of the club.

THE ERIE RAILWAY REPORT.

After two years wherein to "cook" the figures, the Erie Railway Company presents a statement of its business in 1869. It is reasonable to suppose that this statement is the most favorable that can be made, yet we feel safe in saying that there is not another railroad in the country that makes so poor an exhibit of its business. Mr. JAY GOULD, President of the Erie, in his report one year ago, assured the stockholders that their road was improving wonderfully in both freight and passenger business, and painted its pay achievements and the victories before it in such brilliant colors that, to take his offer to it, scarcely any other railway could be a safer and more profitable investment.

Mr. GOULD certainly has reason to praise the Erie, for has he not given much out of it? But the stockholders are the bondholders. They have not been so fortunate. They have been cherishing the hopes that Mr. GOULD'S report sought to inspire, but now he has blighted their prospects by his sworn statement, just published.

Some points in that statement are worthy of more than a passing notice. Many people here put their money into railroads, on the belief that they are useful public enterprises for the furnishing of transit for freight and passengers from place to place at the fairest rates, consistent with a fair profit to the roads. Those who have held this notion, have also thought it was for the interest of the road, its owners and its customers, that it be as economically managed as possible, and that all expenses of litigation, stock manipulation and such like, should be cut down to the lowest notch, if not, indeed, entirely avoided. They really thought that the business of a railroad was railroading, not stock-jobbing nor running the courts. Such simple-minded folk will be astonished to read of the payment of $1,000,000 to the President of another railroad, and $429,250 to his confederate, not for freight transported or for passengers carried or a line of track leased, but to settle up a Wall street operation. They will be astonished, too, to learn of the payment in one year of $263,752 86 as interest on notes given for current expenses and supplies by one road, when they know that its rival on one hand, the New York Central, not only does not borrow but carries a surplus of six or seven millions, while its Pennsylvania rival always has cash in the Treasury, not for expenses merely, but for dividends. Then what will they think of $330,938 spent as attorney's fees in a year? Over *fifty* lawyers were employed, only four of whom got as low as $500 each, while DAVID DUDLEY FIELD received $13,000, WILLIAM M. EVARTS, $15,000, CLARENCE A. SEWARD, $24,000, EDWARDS PIERREPONT, $30,000, J. C. BANCROFT DAVIS, $10,612, JAMES T. BRADY, $5,000, and other less prominent lawyers sums quite as large.

But there is more than these extravagances in unnecessary directions. The necessary expenses, the cost of operating the road, were too great, if other roads are to be taken as a standard. Omitting from the cost of operating, all payments of interest, rent, counsel fees, &c., we find that the expenses were 72.5 per cent. of the gross receipts. Upon that same basis it cost about $14,290 per mile to operate the 845.75 miles of the Erie Railway. In contrast with this let us put the New York Central, operating 1165.86 miles in the same region, the Great Western of Canada, operating 334.5 miles, and the Chicago and Northwestern operating 1156 miles. To each one the latest annual report given in Poor's Railroad Manual for 1870–71 is used, the calculations being made, as in the case of the Erie, upon the basis of actual operating expenses. Of these roads, of which the expenses are above rather than below the average throughout the country, the New York Central's operating expenses are 58 per cent. of the receipts, the Great Western's are 55 per cent., the Chicago and Northwestern's are 53.85 per cent.—Erie's are 72.5 per cent. The operating expenses per mile of the New York Central are $7,767, of the Great Western are $6,599, of the Chicago and Northwestern are $6,855—of the Erie are $14,290. This comparison can be extended to include almost every railroad in the country, but these are sufficient specimens to indicate the truth that either it will never pay to operate the Erie as a broad gauge road, or the GOULD-FISK management make unnecessary and extravagant outlays, even in the regular operation of the road, aside from their costly stock-gambling and litigation. If the road cannot pay because it is broad gauge, its actual owners shall know this before it is too late to make a change. If GOULD and his confederates are to blame, as is more probable, it would be more becoming if the Courts and Legislature of New York would count them from the mismanagement of property towards most of which their relation, at the best, is only that of trustees.

REFORM PLEDGES.

At the commencement of the present session of the Legislature, we reported the fact that Mr. WHITE, of this county, had introduced a bill for a reform in the extravagant emoluments of certain of the county officers in this District. It was intended, of course, to redeem to some extent the pledges upon which the present members were elected, and so far as it accomplishes that object, will deserve and receive the approbation of their constituents.

It seems, however, from a report of this bill which we have somewhere seen, that it proposes only to do a *part* of the work by maintaining *existing abuses* so far as regards all the incumbents not elected specially upon the footing of this pledge; which amounts in effect to a declaration that, although the whole thing is wrong, the wishes and interests of the people are only to be so far respected as the *letter* of the contract shall require, and only to that extent, because it would not be safe to ignore them altogether. The distinction thus made in favor of those who were already in the enjoyment of such inordinate profit, at the expense of the people, is in accordance with, if not founded on, a very curious argument of their organ put forth in advance, to the effect that these men, by virtue of their election *without pledges*, had acquired a sort of vested right to plunder their masters for their own emolument, which could not be fairly withdrawn so long as their commissions continued. To call such a claim a *right*, however, would be a gross *misnomer*. It would better deserve to be characterized as a *"wrong."*

Suppose, suggested their apologist, that these men had made their calculations, bought property, or built houses on the faith of existing laws, would it not be unjust to meddle with the fountain of revenue upon which they relied for the purpose of meeting their engagements?

Suppose, on the other hand, say the people, that an individual in prosperous business had done the same things as many a man does, on the faith of a continuance of life, or on a system of legislation which tempted him to invest his money in a particular way, and the life was determined by Providence, or the law changed by the act of man. Would anybody but a dunce pretend that the author of nature had inflicted a wrong in the one case, or that the legislative power of the government was to be arrested in the other? The man who takes an office, takes it subject to all the contingencies of legislation, even to the abolishment of the office itself, just as the industrious worker—not the drone of the hive—enjoys the gift of life with the risks of its termination at any time; and the proposition is a shameless one to preserve and maintain even for a moment, an *admitted* abuse, for the sake of a mere officeholder who finds his account in it. When it was proposed to reform the financial administration of this county at the session of the Legislature in 1842, there was a like clamor from some interested quarters about interference with existing offices and emoluments. The Sheriff was sensitive about his jail perquisites, and the Collectors, almost to a man, made battle for the continuance of *their* offices, and enlisted thousands of short-sighted petitioners in their behalf, but the work was done in spite of both, and the people now see and enjoy the advantage of it.

There is but one office in the State where the emoluments cannot be lessened during the term, and that is the Judgeships, which depend for this on a constitutional provision that was considered essential to their independence.

If the members from this county are sincere in this matter, and disposed to carry out in *spirit* the instructions of the people, they will make no distinction in favor of persons. To do so would only convict them of a disposition to favor private interests at the expense of the public, and an indisposition to do any more in the way of reform than they feel it impossible to avoid. Neither Sheriff nor Coroner has any claims either *legal* or *moral* for immunity at their hands, and if they find themselves advocated by any portion of the press to which they have been in the habit of looking for sound doctrine, it will not be amiss for them to inquire whether there may not be especial interests—particular cases to introduce opinions that, if followed, may ultimately prove damaging to themselves. For they should see, for example, a long line of Sheriff's sales on one side of a newspaper, and an elaborated defense of pending *existing rights* on the other, they could perhaps conclude that it would be wiser to take advice from some other quarter. There are newspapers that avow their object to be the *making of money* only, and in such cases of course a coincidence of the sort is not to be disregarded.

THE FUTURE ACCORDING TO BISMARCK.

"The terrible Chancellor," as Mr. THOMAS CARLYLE calls him, is so much in the thoughts and mouths of men that whatever pertains to him is interesting. M. ANGEL DE MIRANDA, a Spaniard connected with the press of Paris, and having relations of some kind more or less defined with the Spanish embassy there, a while ago, in the endeavor to escape from the beleaguered city, was brought up in the quarters of Count BISMARCK, at Versailles. Once at liberty MIRANDA has published an account of the adventure which reads very much as if it were or might be true in all essential particulars, as there is nothing in the narrative inconsistent with the well known traits of the Count's character. Having invited his involuntary visitor to dinner and regaled him with such viands as were at hand, BISMARCK entered into conversation with him, with characteristic vivacity and freedom. The entire colloquy as reported by MIRANDA, is decidedly entertaining, while the following passage possesses a certain historical interest and is worth translating:

"We then spoke of Paris, which he pretended to believe at the end of its resources, and that the Parisians were no doubt very desirous of capitulating at the earliest moment while they cared for the people of the Hotel de Ville. I undeceived him on these points, and showed him the entire population of Paris resolved to defend themselves to the last extremity, which he did not believe. 'Vanity keeps them up in the meantime,' said he; 'it is the foundation of the French character. They cannot make me believe that Paris is a heroic city, and, in whatever way, it must be that we shall end by getting in.'

"'It will not be by ma n force, I said, at any rate unless you decide to destroy the city by bombardment and sacrifice a great part of your army. The mode they shall adopt does not concern me, he replied; it is the affair of the generals; if I were called—which I am not—to give my advice on the subject, I would never propose assault, because I know, I think that the Parisians are gifted with very lively courage and will offer a very energetic resistance in that case, and should unforeseen circumstances—that case, we should undergo great losses unquestionably; now, the play is not worth the candle. Famine, this I like, as it is the only sure of conquering, thanks to two powerful allies whom we have in the interior—Time and Hunger.

"The Reds, I replied, seem to me sufficiently kept in control by the national guard, and as for famine, it may delay a little.

"'Be it so! We will wait ten years if necessary, but we shall get in! This is the decision of the high mind of the King, who wishes to spare Paris as much as possible, but who has resolved to sign a peace onv in that Tuileries. This idea, as far as I can see, is that the King that his majesty having re-established for this campaign the number of the iron corps, at the end of the nominations were made since 1815, has invited the few titularies of that time still alive to come to headquarters (Hallali au nom) and nominate after the French capital in the midst of those glorious veterans.

"'And in case of the prolongation of the war, you do not fear the arrival of a fresh army of relief, or the intervention of all Europe?

"Having treated the suggestion of an army of relief with great contempt as an impossibility, the Count said: As for the neutral powers, they are at least as much our friends as the friends of France, whose pride and whose restless and aggressive policy have rendered it a danger to Europe for centuries. The French are incredibly frivolous if they have not comprehended that.

The suggestion that Russia and England, according to report, were likely to unite in intervention, was received by the Count with loud laughter. He then asked:

"And you Spaniards, are you also going to enter this terrible coalition against us? It makes no difference, though I should have liked to see in this war you would be our allies. We have made the war a little on your account, and it would have secured naturally to us the right to aid our Spain. It was in this view that, on the day after the declaration of war, I sent a dispatch to Prim to ask him what would be the contingent of Spain. I was greatly surprised to see the Marshal retreat from the consequence of his letter. It is to be regretted that things could not have been thus arranged; France could have taken care of the north and on the South at the same time, and we should now be in Paris. What an awakening for your people! Spain once more mistress of herself!

"'I am not a man to meddle with the affairs of others, and Prussia has always condemned the interfering with the internal politics of Spain or of any other country. We may, however, say that the existence of a Spanish prince would have been for you a guaranty of regeneration. The Latin race is worn out; it has accomplished great things, but now its destinies are closed, and it is summoned to decrease little by little until its entire disappearance as an effective body. Farsighted statesmen of the Latin countries ought to anticipate and direct this movement of transformation, instead of exhausting themselves in barren efforts to prevent a result decreed by fate. Our prince on the contrary would, without violence or humiliation, have infused into you a little German sap and vigor. The Germanic race is young, vigorous, as full of energy and initiative as the Latin race was formerly. It is to the nations of the north that the future belongs, and they are the ones called during their decline to perform part which they are destined to fill for the good of humanity."

Returning at length from his philosophical discourse to the war, BISMARCK declared the purpose of the Germans to occupy Paris and France as long as may be necessary. They might have to wait for the establishment of a new government, they would end by finding a government with which to treat, "should it be that of ROBERT MACAIRE." The essential thing for them was to make peace on conditions which should satisfy them, in all justice and with trustworthy guarantees. M. BISMARCK thought it not unlikely that NAPOLEON would be restored, at any rate his dynasty, with the consent of a majority of the French people. They had nothing to reproach him with but having failed in pursuing an object dear to the country, the conquest of the Rhine. "The dear good man still lives" added BISMARCK with one of those loud laughs with which he is wont to emphasize his frightful after-thoughts.

CONCERNING GEN. NEGLEY'S Allegheny Arsenal Bill, it is evident that studied deception has been used. Until its true character was made known through the columns of the COMMERCIAL Monday, our citizens had no knowledge of what was going on. They were told that the plan was simply to remove the Arsenal from the heart of the city to a more suitable place in the neighborhood, and, if possible, secure the grounds now occupied by the Arsenal for park purposes. To this the Councils gave their assent; and there could be no serious objection to such an arrangement, though some foresaw the danger of losing the Arsenal entirely were it to be attempted. What was the surprise and indignation, therefore, when it became known that the entire breaking up and removal of the Arsenal, with no thought of a more eligible location in the vicinity, as though, for some reason or other, it was something to be got rid of in the quickest time and at almost any cost, was the real purpose of General NEGLEY'S bill! We will not undertake to fathom the motive for this most extraordinary proceeding; whether it is a speculation on the part of a few individuals, a personal pique on the part of General NEGLEY which failing in all previous endeavors, he has taken this extraordinary course to gratify, or whether it is the result of a constitutional defect in judgment, it is at present unnecessary to inquire. Whatever the motive, it is a blow aimed deliberately at Pittsburgh. We have already shown that our city has been profited to the extent of many millions by the presence of the arsenal here, and it is an establishment we could well afford to pay liberally to keep. Apart from the direct disbursements, it brings business of various kinds to our city, gives constant employment to thousands of mechanics and laborers, brings business to our railroads, consumes large quantities of material, and lends importance to our city in various ways. It is an establishment doing business on a basis of three millions of invested capital. To drive it away seems insanity itself. It was easy enough for General NEGLEY to procure a corporation to insure the removal, for half a dozen places are striving for the very business done and to be done here; and while other places are protesting against the removal of arsenals, Pittsburgh, through her representative, seems to be anxious to get rid of the Allegheny Arsenal. Need we add a single word of comment or frame a reason why our citizens should at once and earnestly protest against the meditated injury?

THE Senate of Pennsylvania have recorded their protest against obstructing the navigation of the Ohio river with railroad bridges—action which the House will promptly indorse. There is a changed and very greatly improved feeling abroad concerning obstructions to rivers by railroads. The navigation interest is looking up and gaining strength, as is evident for the passage of the bill appropriating $200,000 to complete work at the Louisville Falls. The friends have only to persevere to obtain not only indemnity for the past but security for the future.

AMERICAN SYMPATHY FOR ITALIAN UNITY.

There could be no serious doubts that a deep sympathy was felt in the United States for Italian unity and freedom, even in the absence of any outward expression. But the cordial indorsement which the movement in New York, to embody such an expression by holding a public meeting, is receiving, not only from the masses of our people, but many of the most influential exponents of public opinion, removes all suspicion on this point. If from any quarter of the globe free Italy has a right to expect prompt and hearty sympathy, it is the United States. And she will not be disappointed. Vice President COLFAX led off, and to his letter we have now added those of Senator TRUMBULL, Senator HOWARD, of Michigan, Senator BUCKINGHAM, of Connecticut, Secretary DELANO, and ex-Secretary COX, all written under the common impulse which animates the great body of the American people. From Senator TRUMBULL'S letter we make the following extract:

> My feelings are in entire accord with the object of the meeting, and but for the pressure of the important duties here, I should be most happy to attend and take part in it. The opening of Italy to liberal ideas, and the unlocking of Rome itself to the advancing civilization and intelligence of the nineteenth century, are great events in the world's history. If, with civil and religious freedom guaranteed to all, the mysteries and doctrines of Rome can stand the test of free thought and free discussion, let them prevail and become universal: if not, let them give way to a purer faith, and a higher and better civilization. May the time speedily come when not only in Rome, but at Jerusalem also, all men shall be as secure in their civil rights, and as free to worship, as they now are in independent America.

Senator HOWARD is not less unreserved when he says:

> The national unity of Italy—the independence of Italy—the nation of Italy! Why, these words, meaningless for a thousand years, have, in these latter days, acquired a significance, a power which stirs the scholar's heart and makes the soul of every lover of liberty leap for joy.
>
> May the Italian people remember through what ages of night and sorrow and despotism they and their ancestors have passed in order to reach this consummation; and may they have the moral courage, the steady courage, the manly courage to maintain liberty and good government in that classic land to which civilized man has ever looked as the cradle of modern science and art.

Senator BUCKINGHAM writes:

> I beg to assure you that I cordially sympathise with the Italians, who have long been struggling for freedom, and am confident that the recent revolution has brought that people into a more advanced and on to a higher plane, both of civil and religious liberty."

Secretary DELANO, declares that it is "a theme upon which he would be pleased to speak, and one of peculiar interest at the present time." Ex-Secretary COX declares himself to be in full accord with these sentiments, as follows:

> I have in so sincere and earnest a pleasure in witnessing each step taken toward making that great people the unit it ought to be, that it would be from a personal pleasure to me to be present at the meeting on the 19th."

THE Harrisburg *State Journal*, in a forcible article on what should be the course of the Republicans in our Legislature to insure the general welfare and approval of their constituents, says:

> But all this can only be accomplished according to the degree in which our servants meet popular desires. There can be no difficulty about this, above all there must be no blunders committed by the Republicans in the Legislature. There must be no wasting of public money, no defiance of the will of the people in ignoring of great principles. We want more legislation for the people and less grants of special power to privileged orders.

Truths so perfectly manifest as these should not need to be repeated; but it is true that the State Treasury stands in danger of organized plunder, and notably in the matter of the proposed Legislative *Record*. BERGNER'S apology for such a publication was suppressed last winter because it was a swindle; and unless we are wholly misinformed, a combination has been entered among certain publishers at the capital, backed by certain leaders on both sides, to revive it because it is a job too good to forego. We hope that we are misinformed, but are confident we are not. Now, is this sort of thing never to end? Must the State Treasury be tapped for an indefinite amount for the sake of notorious characters who have grown rich and others who want to do the same thing? A *Record* is doubtless needed, but far better will it be to have none at all than revive the old one, which served no earthly purpose, and can be made to serve no more, notwithstanding the liberal promises of better things, but to put money in the pockets of the jobbers.

BERGNER'S *Record*, the revival of which is proposed, was always days and weeks behind. It in no sense served to inform the Legislature or the public on hardly any day of the session what was done the day before. It was systematically stuffed with useless matter to increase the expense. One huge document appeared in it four or five times, and every description of typographical and reportorial trick was resorted to to swell the number of pages. The people never wanted it, few ever saw it, all were glad when it was suppressed and nobody has asked for its revival. Five or six thousand dollars will furnish whatever is necessary, whereas BERGNER'S useless contrivance cost some forty or fifty thousand each session of about three months, and its revival is understaken now because there is money in it. There may be Legislators who think it would be a good idea to go to even this expense to procure the publication of their speeches; but we may be tolerably sure that their speeches would not in any case appear. If they want to see themselves in print let them stand the expense. If they say anything that really deserves to be printed they will be quite certain to find themselves in print without much trouble or expense of their own. The Legislature have no right to spend the public money for any such purpose. Opposition to any but an economical *Record*, costing five or six thousand dollars, rests on solid ground, and but for the jobbers any other would not be seriously thought of. We implore the Legislature, the Republican members especially, to be drawn into nothing more expensive. Let them be firm in their stand against the Ring, which, as we are assured, has been formed to tap the treasury to almost an indefinite extent.

IT is stated on apparently trustworthy authority that the final settlement or disposition to be made of Alsace and Lorthingen will be agreed upon in conferences held at Versailles. These provinces are to be held as a fief under the imperial German Government, and will be administered by a Governor residing at Strasburg, aided by a cabinet nominated by the Emperor of Germany. The territory is to have a system of finance, taxation, and legal administration peculiar to itself, and is immediately to become a member of the Zollverein. Three years after the war, the inhabitants may elect deputies to the *Reichstag*.

NOTHING could be more satisfactory to the country in connection with the San Domingo business, than the manner the President has discharged the duty of appointing the Commissioners. It lifts the whole subject out of the depths into which it had somehow fallen. The proceeding has now taken the only shape consistent with its importance, and whatever may be the report of the Commissioners, the question of acquiring San Domingo will have been placed on its merits, and the President vindicated.

MR. THOMAS HUGHES, M. P., pays the highest compliment to the energy, Christianity and perseverance of women in general, and the American women in particular. Among other arguments in favor of the introduction of the female-teacher system, he brings up this:

> "Our cousins on the other side of the Atlantic had a great problem to deal with in the mass of ignorant emancipated blacks thrown upon their hands, and when they resolved that at any cost all the white and blacks should be educated, every possible difficulty was thrown in the way by the South, but the women triumphed: became it was undertaken by women. The most startling facts were on record as to the work carried out by them. Two of the leaders were named in the South the 'Boston Marms;' but, difficult as was their task, they have managed to cure the bad habits of the blacks, educate their minds, and lead to the paths of industry and good citizenship those who before filled all with anxiety."

The work is not yet complete, however, but is going bravely on.

IT is the general impression that King William, in one of his proclamations, said that he waged war not against France but against Napoleon and his armies. Here is what he *did* say:

> The Emperor Napoleon finds by land and sea attacked the German people, who desired and still desire to live in peace with the French nation. I have assumed command of the German armies to repel this attack; and by the events of war I have been led to cross the French frontier. I carry on this war against French soldiers, not against the citizens of France. Accordingly the latter will continue to enjoy perfect security in person and property so long as they do not themselves deprive me of the right of granting them protection by hostile undertakings against the German troops.

Now that all France has taken up arms, he is consistent in fighting all France. Whether by ending the war after Sedan he would not have more sympathy among civilized nations, is another question.

THE new State Capitol building is likely to be a "white elephant" for New York. The Commissioners were not to begin it unless they could be satisfied that the cost would not exceed four million dollars, but two thirds of that amount has already been spent, and it is uncertain what the rest of the job will cost, the estimate being from twelve to thirty million dollars. Meanwhile Tweed favors working away at it as long as possible, as it is a good place to provide for voters and the Legislature is uncertain whether to stop work at present, losing only the expenditures up to this time, or to incur the unlimited expense of completing it.

MRS. LINCOLN was in London on the 22d ult., for the purpose of placing her son Tad at school, and that having accomplished this she purposed joining her friend, Mrs. Bishop Simpson, in Rome.

"DAILY LEGISLATIVE JOURNAL."

The following was received Friday, January 13, the first publication having been made in Harrisburg on the day previous:

PUBLICATION OF LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

The joint committee of the two Houses of the Pennsylvania Legislature will receive proposals until January the 17th, for the publication of a "*Daily Legislative Journal*" of the proceedings of the Legislature, said journal to contain sketches of the presentation and disposition of memorials, petitions, and remonstrances; the introduction, reference and action on bills and resolutions; sketches of debates; the yeas and nays on all questions; and generally such particulars as shall fairly exhibit the action of the two Houses; 6,000 copies of each number to be printed for the use of the House and Senate; to be printed on good white printing paper, upon brevier type; each number to have not less than four pages; the pages to be of same form and size of the *Legislative Record* of 1868. The contract to be given to the lowest responsible bidder. Security to be given for the fulfilment.

Communications can be addressed to any of the following gentlemen, Harrisburg:

HARRY WHITE,
I. D. DAVIS,
R. B. PETAKEN,
Senate.
JAMES ELLIS,
MYER S. HUMPHREYS,
R. JOHNSTON,
House of Representatives.

First, as to the opportunities for competition outside of Harrisburg, and the intention to have competition there: Between the first publication and the day on which bids are to be put in will be five days, including the day of publication and the day for bidding. No competition was desired; none was intended—there will be none, the Harrisburg publishers having a perfect understanding, which is reported to be about this: One is to have the *Record* or *Journal*, another the State Printing, the third a share of one or both, to keep quiet. As bearing on this, see how silent certain papers, Democratic and Republican, are keeping and will keep.

Second, as to the "little joker" under the name and title "not less than four pages," the price BERGNER was paid was $14 a page, and, under the nice arrangement now existing, the price that will be paid for the new affair—rather the old revived—will probably be as near to it as it is dared to get. Let us suppose a case, and one likely to happen more than once. The House meets on a morning at the usual hour, and the report that will "fairly exhibit" the proceedings will read thus: "The House met according to adjournment. The journal of the previous day was read, when no quorum being present the House adjourned till to-morrow to meet at the usual hour." The Senate proceedings (which body may not be in session at all) are similar. Twenty lines would suffice to record everything, and yet the publisher is to print and get pay for "not less than four pages." Can there be any mistaking the meaning of this?

Third, as to the time, regularity and promptness of the publication: There is nothing said about it. The contractor may publish whenever he pleases, for all that is required of him in the above, whereas the only value in a journal of the sessions will consist in its daily publication, or as nearly so as possible; certainly never more than two or three days apart, when the proceedings (as toward the close of the session) are most voluminous. The scandal and worthlessness, and at the same time, to a considerable extent, profitableness, as well as the swindle in the printing of the old *Record*, was in the fact that BERGNER never got it out when it could be of any practical value, it frequently being weeks after the session closed before it was concluded. No correction of this crying evil, no provision for prompt publication is contemplated. In this vital respect it is the old good-for-nothing thing over again.

With the words of Mr. WALLACE about honesty and retrenchment still ringing in our ears, the fact is made apparent, that he and his Democratic followers are deep in this business. Republicans! will you not show by your action that you are not and cannot be dragged into it!

THE Washington *Patriot*, a Democratic paper, edited by ex-Minister HANNEY, announces the death of Hon. JOHN COVODE, in the following remarks:

> "Mr. Covode was a self-made man, enterprising, sagacious, and practical. By these qualities he rose from humble life to the position of the most wealthy second on the list of stockholders in the Pennsylvania Central Railroad, with which he had commenced as a day laborer. Honest in his dealings, and unpretending in his life, he was marked by a strict fidelity to his friendship, and by a generous heart that commended those high qualities to those who were widely separated from him by party distinctions.
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> At the time of his death Mr. COVODE was first on the list of stockholders in the Central Company, a position to which by purchase of stock he had quite recently advanced. His name had of late been freely used in connection with the practical management of some portion of the company's business.

It is claimed that the appointment of Mr. OLIN to fill the vacancy in the Committee of Ways and Means created by the resignation of General SCHENCK, leaves the Committee standing as follows: Four tariff, four revenue reformers, and one between the two. It is argued that therefore little will be done on the tariff question at the present session.

THE St. Louis *Democrat* declares that in the West the business prospect "scarcely ever was better." "Fear not," it says, "activity and prosperity will characterize the West during 1871."

THERE are a class of papers of real enterprise that employ their own correspondents and receive dispatches, and there are others that get all their illustrative their dispatches out of those of their more enterprising contemporaries and palm them off as genuine. But the reading public are not long discovering which is the forgery and which the genuine.

IT would seem almost superfluous to send any Commission to San Domingo seeking information, since all the editors in the land have been searching through the Atlantic cables, and telegraphing selling all about its 97,960 square miles of hill, valley, plain, and mountain land; its beauty, its ugliness, its adaptation to the production of this, that, the other, and more.

AN eminent banker in Germany, under date of December 20th, writes to a friend here, as follows: "The Germans carry on the war at the rate of \$1,000,000 per day, and when it is over I think there will be a large emigration to America. In Europe money is very abundant now, because business, as a general thing, is at an entire standstill, and everybody does not want to invest their money; but when the war is over there will be such a demand for money that the rate of discount must go considerably higher."

THE cattle disease which is causing some excitement in New York and Massachusetts, called by scientific men *Epizootic Aptha*, it must be a terrible disease, judging from the name), is far from being a new one, as has been supposed. It made its appearance in England some thirty years past, creating great alarm. It first broke out, at that time, in Austria and Hungary, and traveling westward came to England. It again visited the latter place in 1869, and to be not very dangerous, though almost impossible to be kept from spreading.

THE Legislature of New York were very funny the other evening at a petition purporting to come from Miss Anthony and Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, praying for the appointment of girls as pages in legislative bodies. The petition is described as containing "more obscenity than wit, though tolerably destitute of either." It is no wonder that the correspondent says of the legislators who greeted this sorry joke with loud laughter, that "it is superfluous to say that no sane woman would consent to have a day of hers brought into such associations."

A SEAT thing in New York legislation has just been discovered in regard to the Tenement House Building act. It seems that a clause was quietly inserted, a clause which gives Judges of the Supreme Court the right to nullify all its previous enactments, and thus builders of these man-traps evade its regulations. It is gratifying to know that the act of Assemblyman Fullerton, a building inspector for Cleveland, do not thus provide for their own evasion, but are sufficient for their purpose, if enforced.

THE Philadelphia Select Council has passed a resolution requesting the Park Commissioners and the Legislature to build a fire-proof building in Fairmount Park, in which to place the Rothermel picture of the battle of Gettysburg. With it is coupled a clause that, until the building be completed, the picture shall be exhibited free in Independence Hall, on account of this last clause the Select Council refused the matter the same committee, thus delaying it. Meanwhile, would it not be well to have some official action in Pittsburgh in the way of an attempt to secure this great work of art for our city, for the time being, at least, if not permanently?

THE London *Times* has a Melbourne letter, saying that private advices from the Fiji Islands are that Sir HAMILTON HOBART has been before long make arrangements to assume the protectorate of the Fijis." The reasons given are the rapid increase in the trade in cotton and other tropical productions, and the convenience of having a good footing in the Pacific, in view of the new steamer lines between San Francisco and Australia. The *Times'* letter says: "The Fijians seem to regard American rule with complacency, as preferable at any rate to a protectorate under a rival race and its institutions." Such things may be in contemplation, but this country has enough of annexation on hand nearer home, and neither expects nor cares to "protect" the Fijians just yet.

OF the five million fund of the Presbyterian Church, about $2,000,000 have been subscribed, but though the time is short in which to raise the remaining $3,000,000, there are sanguine hopes that it will be realized within the time specified. One million dollars of this sum have been devoted to denominational institutions of learning throughout the land, and $2,000,000 have gone toward strengthening weak churches and providing parsonages. In addition to this, the churches of New York city propose to raise a fund of $1,000,000 to establish a mission church there, similar to the Methodist Book Concern, on Broadway, only that it will not be a publishing house, that department of the Presbyterian Church enterprises being carried on quite extensively in Philadelphia. A portion of this fund is to go also toward the erection and endowment of the new Union Theological Seminary, which is soon to be transferred up town. About one-third of the sum needed for those interests has been raised, and the subscriptions are steadily pouring in.

THE Philadelphia *Press* is free to maintain that several of the New York papers have not been veracious in their accounts of the strike in the anthracite coal regions. There it was said that 100,000 men are thrown out of employment by the strike, of whom 25,000 have been employed in the Wyoming Valley, 10,000 in the Lehigh Valley, and 45,000 in the Schuylkill Valley. Now according to the *Press*, the truth is that the miners themselves only claim to number about 30,000, and they certainly do not exceed 40,000 in all. Of these about one-half are in Schuylkill county and most of the remainder in Carbon and Luzerne counties. There are no coal mines in the Lehigh Valley proper, and consequently no miners there employed.

Then we have other New York papers dictating that the supply of coal on hand is much greater, and the daily consumption is much less than has been reported, such statements being made to "bull" the market, it is said. All these explanations may be quite correct, but they cannot do away with the main fact that the strike is doing great injury; not only to the families of the thousands of miners, but to innumerable poor people in New York and other cities, for when the price of fuel is doubled or trebled in mid-winter, so that many of them must freeze to death. Then how many thousands of workmen in furnaces and manufactories in all the regions dependent upon these mines for fuel, find themselves thrown out of employment, with the same prospect of living increased, and no money coming in. Such a strike, and especially at this season, is a sin. Whether the proprietors have manipulated it to force up the market, or the men have originated it to prevent reduction of their wages, is entirely wrong. As for the proprietors, they lose money by it. The Reading Railroad lost $1,847,369 in one year from a strike. As for the men, they gain nothing in the long run. We verily believe that if they will take the trouble to estimate the loss to themselves during the cessation of work, which has almost come to be an annual affair, they will find that it costs more than if they had worked on steadily all the year around, willing to take for their wages a uniform percentage of the annual profits. Those of dead neither endeavoring by a strike to shorten the supply and thus increase the price and their wages, nor countenancing any efforts of their employees to that end. And if the miners will but think of the losses inflicted upon thousands of their fellow workmen before it succeeds, and they also see that at the Queen's death the great unpopularity of the Prince of Wales will furnish a good opportunity for moving that the throne be abolished, and a powerful public sentiment in their behalf is the formation of a "Republican Club" at Cambridge University, with Professor Fawcett, several Fellows, and three or four members of Parliament connected with it. It has framed a code of laws for the club, manufactured from the increase of aristocracy, no power to devise property by will, and no disqualification for civil trusts or offices on account of sex. The English Republicans believe that one dose of Legitimacy has been sufficient, and do not believe in having a President.

COL. WILLIS DRUMMOND, of Iowa, was nominated for Land Commissioner, without his own knowledge or that of any member of the Iowa delegation. When Delano was Internal Revenue Commissioner, Col. Drummond was Revenue Supervisor of Iowa, Minnesota and Nebraska, and performed his delicate duties with such diligence, sagacity, integrity and ability, that Commissioner Delano had no better successor to Mr. Wilson, without letting the Iowa delegation know anything about it, without saying a word to anybody but Secretary Belknap, he sent a telegram to Drummond to come to Washington: he sent him the name to stand as Wilson's successor. And then he sent for Mr. Allison and told him what he had done. Such excellent examples of promoting officers for merit are not so frequent as they should be, nor as they will be when a reformed civil service makes them systematic.

THE Board of Underwriters had a meeting in New York last week, on behalf of the parties who have a pecuniary interest in the Alabama claims. The mercantile and insurance interests, not only of that city, but of Philadelphia and other cities, were largely represented. After addresses from Hon. Wm. M. Evarts, Mr. Tucker, and several other gentlemen, a resolution was adopted appointing a Committee of two from each city represented, to go to Washington, to urge upon Congress the adoption of the President's recommendation. The following are the Philadelphia companies represented at the meeting: Delaware Mutual Insurance Company, Thomas C. Hand, President; E. H. Souder, delegate. Insurance Company, State of Pennsylvania, Henry D. Sherrard, delegate. Insurance Company of North America, W. W. S. Catlin, delegate.

A LETTER read in Senate executive session Thursday from Mr. Bassett, our Minister to Hayti, says that Cabral, the so-called rebel Dominican chieftain, had been sent to him as envoy, in the absence of a Spanish resident of Hayti, who was instructed to say that he (Cabral) was not opposed to annexation personally, but did not want Baez to succeed in accomplishing it, because he feared that in that case Baez would be made Emperor and would use his position to persecute him. He sought to get an assurance from Minister Bassett that in case of annexation this Government would treat both Baez and himself on equal terms, so far as political power was concerned. Nearly an hour was spent in the discussion of the communication. The debate did not develop any ill-feeling, but is said to have been of a decidedly rich and peculiar character for an executive session, but no action was taken.

IT is a well known fact among scientific men that England has been approaching America for hundreds of years back. And now, just think of it, they have colonized that far off land. "Good man, but what will the inhabitants of Labrador may stand on their eastern coast of a morning and see Brittannia making her elaborate toilette, or drawing her morning cup of tea. Uncle Sam can then build a pontoon bridge across and visit her at her breakfast-room on a friendly noissance. We had always been aware that Britain was approaching America in her political institutions, her strivings after a broader freedom, and her Church, but the *Journal* [illegible] that she was also approaching America in her commercial education, and had never thought of having her company, bodily, so *soon*. Here's to those who live to see the day!

A CORRESPONDENT of the London *Times* mentions a fact illustrative of the hardy endurance of the German troops. He says that of 300 to 350 men engaged in transporting siege guns over a distance of one hundred miles through deep mud one continuous rain of four days' duration, not one gave out on the march or fell ill at the end. Besides the fatigue of marching and exposure to the weather, these men had also the most arduous labor to perform, for in going down hill every gun had to be held back by main force of human muscle, tugging at the ends of strong ropes. One *horse* fell ill, however, and that was the correspondent's.

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THE Chicago *Post* makes a contribution to the stock of geographical knowledge as follows: "The Hon. John Covode was born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania—that part of the Keystone State that was wrenched from Connecticut after the revolution." That accounts for a good many things people have to say about Westmoreland which we never could understand!

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